the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
NEW WAYS TO DIE
MARVEL
SLOTT • ROMITA JR. • WAID • GRANOV
JR JR JANSON WHITE

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"NEW WAYS TO DIE"

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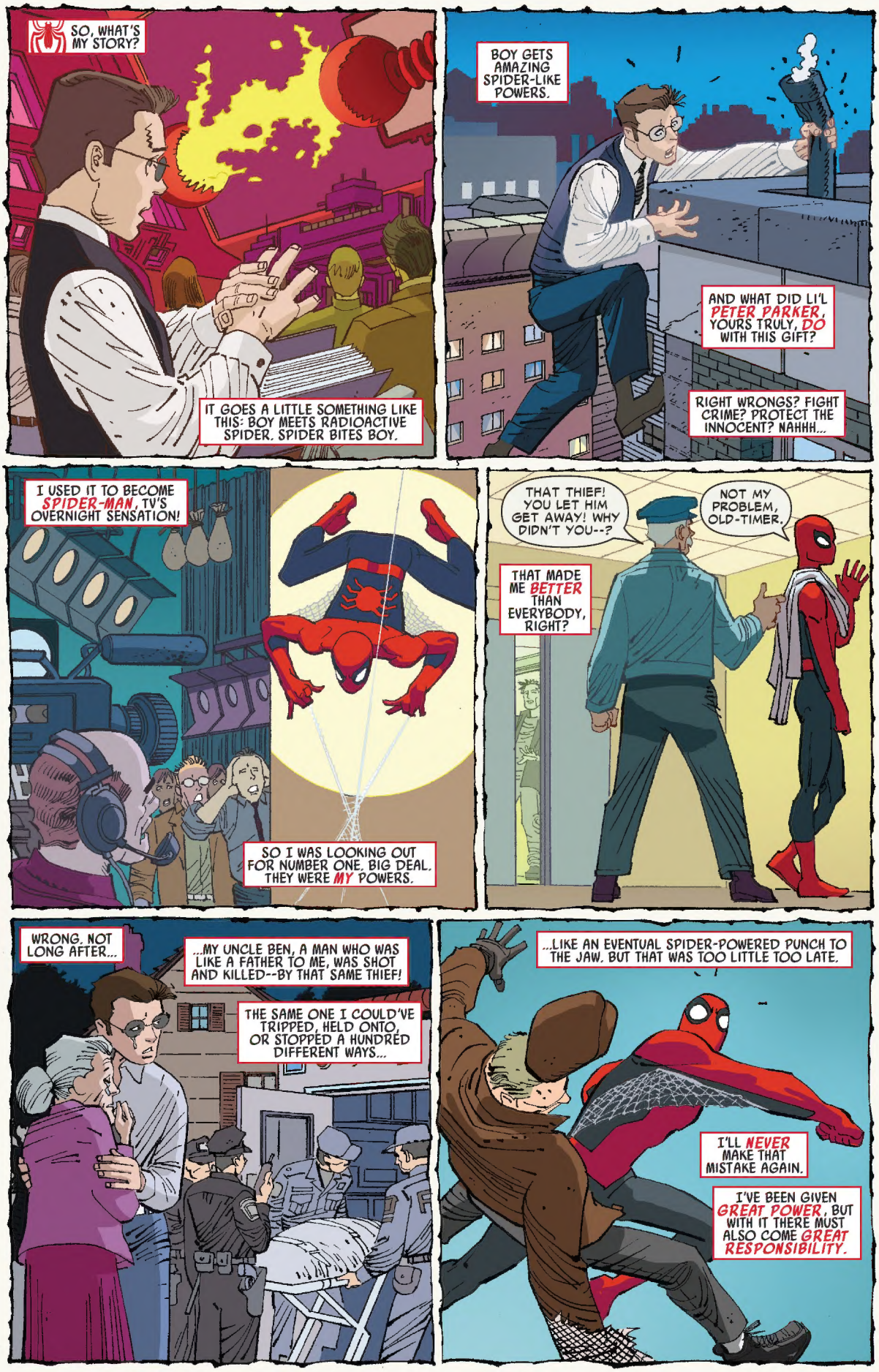
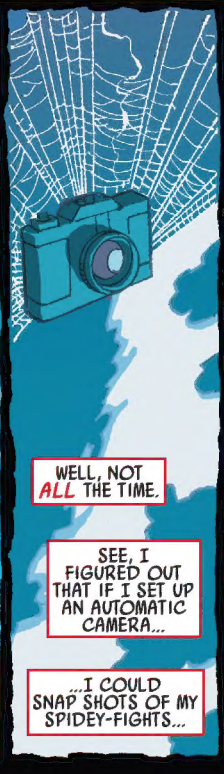
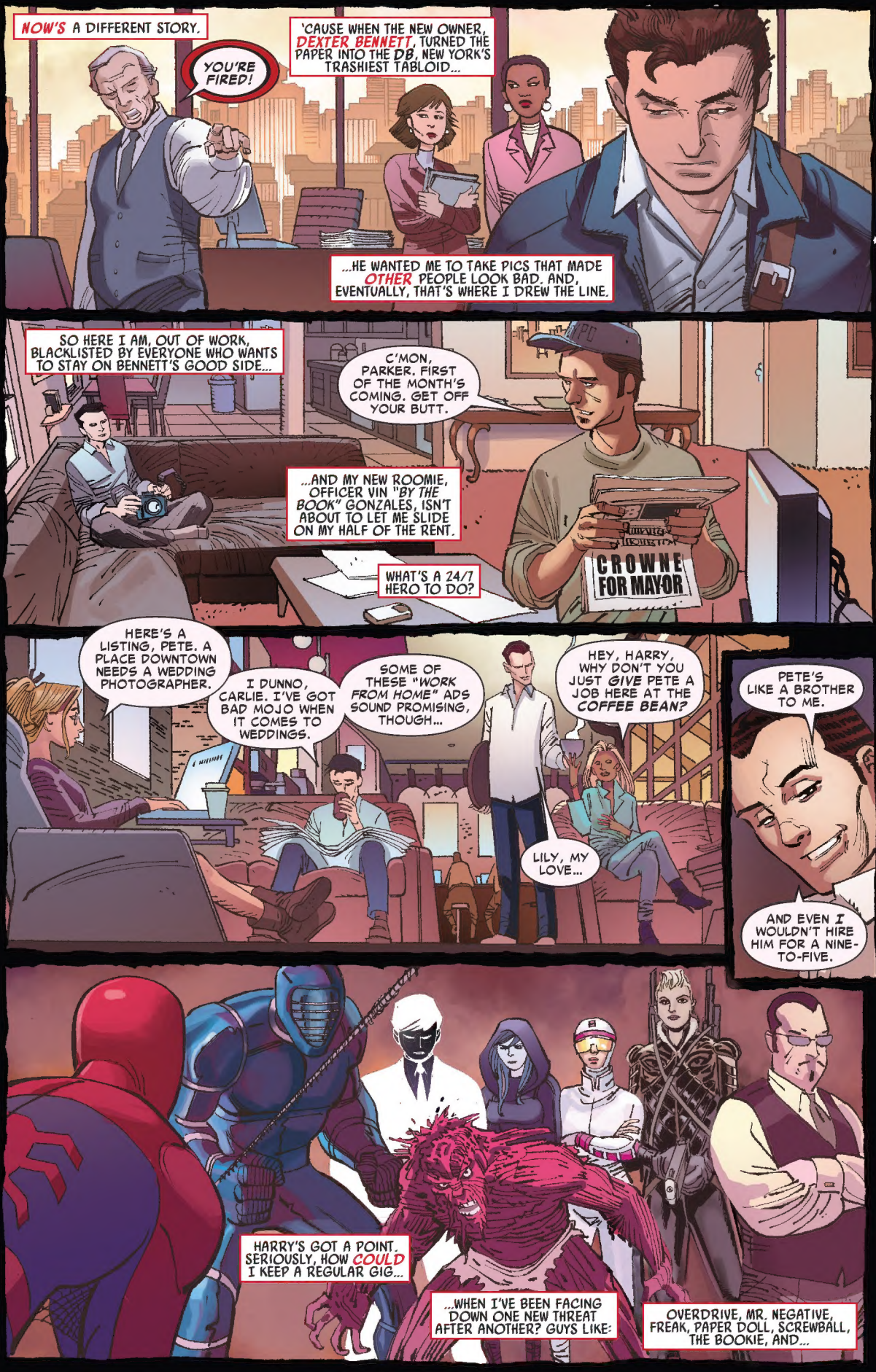

SO, WHAT'S MY STORY?
IT GOES A LITTLE SOMETHING LIKE THIS: BOY MEETS RADIOACTIVE SPIDER. SPIDER BITES BOY.
BOY GETS AMAZING SPIDER-LIKE POWERS.
AND WHAT DID LI'L PETER PARKER, YOURS TRULY, DO WITH THIS GIFT?
RIGHT WRONGS? FIGHT CRIME? PROTECT THE INNOCENT? NAHHH...
I USED IT TO BECOME SPIDER-MAN, TV'S OVERNIGHT SENSATION!
SO I WAS LOOKING OUT FOR NUMBER ONE, BIG DEAL. THEY WERE MY POWERS.
THAT THIEF! YOU LET HIM GET AWAY! WHY DIDN'T YOU--?
NOT MY PROBLEM, OLD-TIMER.
THAT MADE ME BETTER THAN EVERYBODY, RIGHT?
WRONG. NOT LONG AFTER...
...MY UNCLE BEN, A MAN WHO WAS LIKE A FATHER TO ME, WAS SHOT AND KILLED--BY THAT SAME THIEF!
THE SAME ONE I COULD'VE TRIPPED, HELD ONTO, OR STOPPED A HUNDRED DIFFERENT WAYS...
...LIKE AN EVENTUAL SPIDER-POWERED PUNCH TO THE JAW. BUT THAT WAS TOO LITTLE TOO LATE.
I'LL NEVER MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN.
I'VE BEEN GIVEN GREAT POWER, BUT WITH IT THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

THAT MEANS WHEN PUSH COMES TO SHOVE, MY LIFE AS PETER ALWAYS HAS TO TAKE A BACKSEAT...
...TO MY SPIDER-SIDE. AND WITH ALL OF THE BAD GUYS I'VE PICKED UP OVER THE YEARS...

...THAT CAN BE A FULL-TIME JOB!
NOT THAT I GET PAID FOR IT.


WELL, NOT ALL THE TIME.
SEE, I FIGURED OUT THAT IF I SET UP AN AUTOMATIC CAMERA...
...I COULD SNAP SHOTS OF MY SPIDEY-FIGHTS...

...AND SELL 'EM TO JOLLY J. JONAH JAMESON, OWNER OF THE DAILY BUGLE.
HA! WORTH EVERY PENNY!
DAILY BUGLE
SPIDER-MAN & ELECTR IN CAHOOT
DID IT BUG ME THAT HE USED MY OWN PHOTOS TO MAKE SPIDEY LOOK BAD? WELL, DUH.
BUT IT PAID THE BILLS, KEPT ME IN WEB-FLUID, AND I WAS A BIG BOY. I COULD TAKE IT.
THAT WAS THEN...


NOW'S A DIFFERENT STORY.
YOU'RE FIRED!
'CAUSE WHEN THE NEW OWNER, DEXTER BENNETT, TURNED THE PAPER INTO THE DB, NEW YORK'S TRASHIEST TABLOID...
...HE WANTED ME TO TAKE PICS THAT MADE OTHER PEOPLE LOOK BAD. AND, EVENTUALLY, THAT'S WHERE I DREW THE LINE.
SO HERE I AM, OUT OF WORK, BLACKLISTED BY EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO STAY ON BENNETT'S GOOD SIDE...
C'MON, PARKER. FIRST OF THE MONTH'S COMING. GET OFF YOUR BUTT.
...AND MY NEW ROOMIE, OFFICER VIN "BY THE BOOK" GONZALES, ISN'T ABOUT TO LET ME SLIDE ON MY HALF OF THE RENT.
CROWNE FOR MAYOR
WHAT'S A 24/7 HERO TO DO?
HERE'S A LISTING, PETE. A PLACE DOWNTOWN NEEDS A WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHER.
I DUNNO, CARLIE. I'VE GOT BAD MOJO WHEN IT COMES TO WEDDINGS.
SOME OF THESE "WORK FROM HOME" ADS SOUND PROMISING, THOUGH...
HEY, HARRY, WHY DON'T YOU JUST GIVE PETE A JOB HERE AT THE COFFEE BEAN?
LILY, MY LOVE...
PETE'S LIKE A BROTHER TO ME.
AND EVEN I WOULDN'T HIRE HIM FOR A NINE-TO-FIVE.
HARRY'S GOT A POINT. SERIOUSLY, HOW COULD I KEEP A REGULAR GIG...
...WHEN I'VE BEEN FACING DOWN ONE NEW THREAT AFTER ANOTHER? GUYS LIKE:
OVERDRIVE, MR. NEGATIVE, FREAK, PAPER DOLL, SCREWBALL, THE BOOKIE, AND...

...OH, YEAH, CAN'T FORGET CHUCKLES HERE.
OR, AS HE LIKES TO CALL HIMSELF...
MENACE IS BACK, MANHATTAN!
BACK WITH A NEW CAMPAIGN OF TERROR!
BOOM
BOOM
CONSIDER THIS A WARNING! CAST YOUR VOTES FOR HOLLISTER...
FWEE
THE F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT SUPPORTS HOLLISTER FOR MAYOR
HOPE FOR TOMORROW
...AND SEAL YOUR FATE!
THE F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT SUPPORTS HOLLISTER
BRAKOWN
THWIP-IPP-IPP-IPP-IPP-IPP-IPP-IPP-IPP-IPP
LOOK OUT!
OH MY GOD!
AHHH!
WHAT?!! WHO DARES INTERFERE WITH MY--
UM. HULLO...?

GIANT *SPIDER*-WEB? WHO DO YOU *THINK*, EINSTEIN?!

SEE? THIS'S WHY THEY KEEP TALKING ABOUT A *"NO VILLAIN LEFT BEHIND"* PROGRAM.

KTAM

MARVEL COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS:

NEW WAYS TO DIE

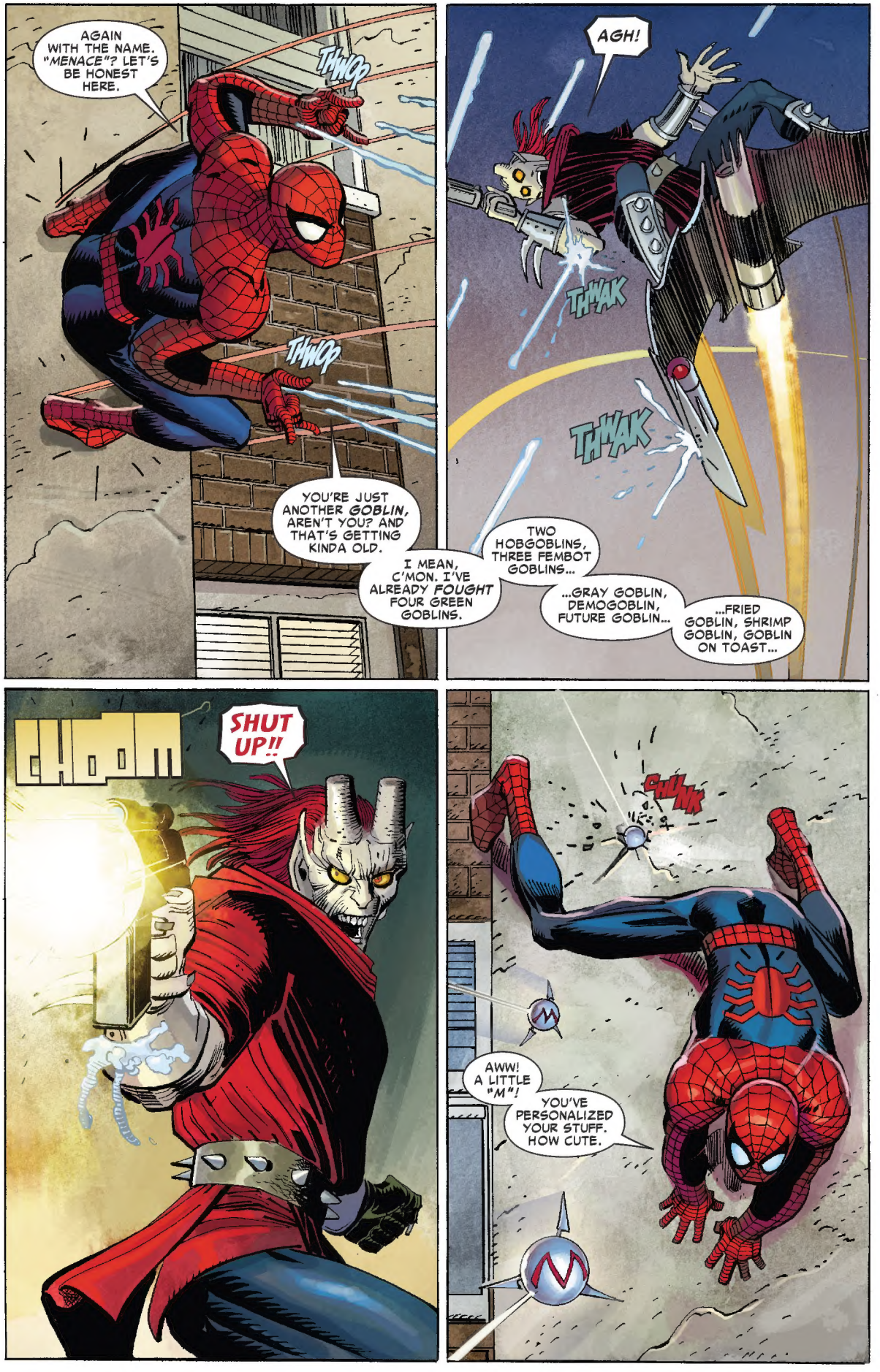
PART ONE: BACK WITH VENGEANCE

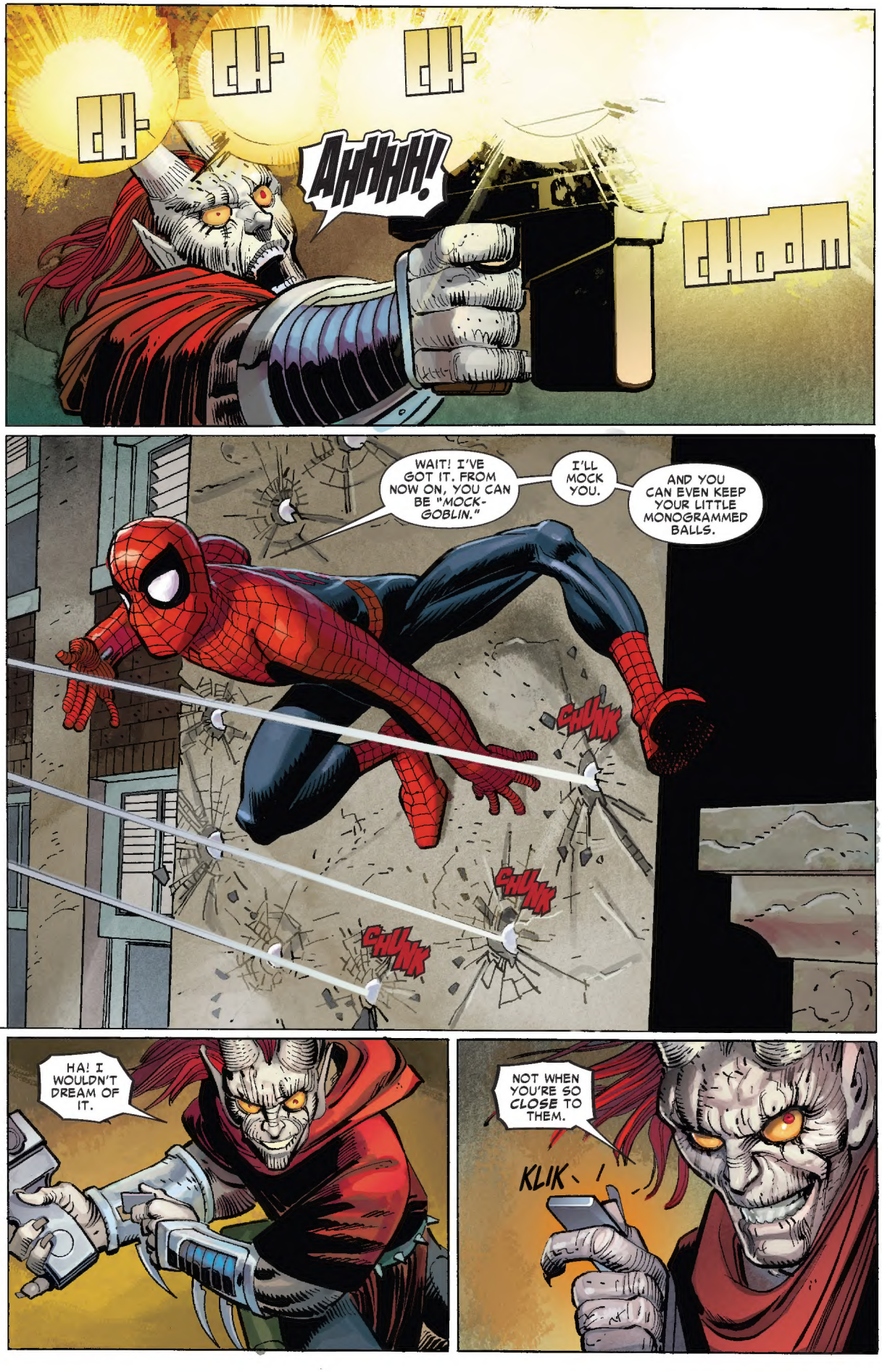
GO ON AND ACT THE FOOL, SPIDER-MAN. THAT'S ALL YOU ARE TO ME, ANOTHER FOOL...

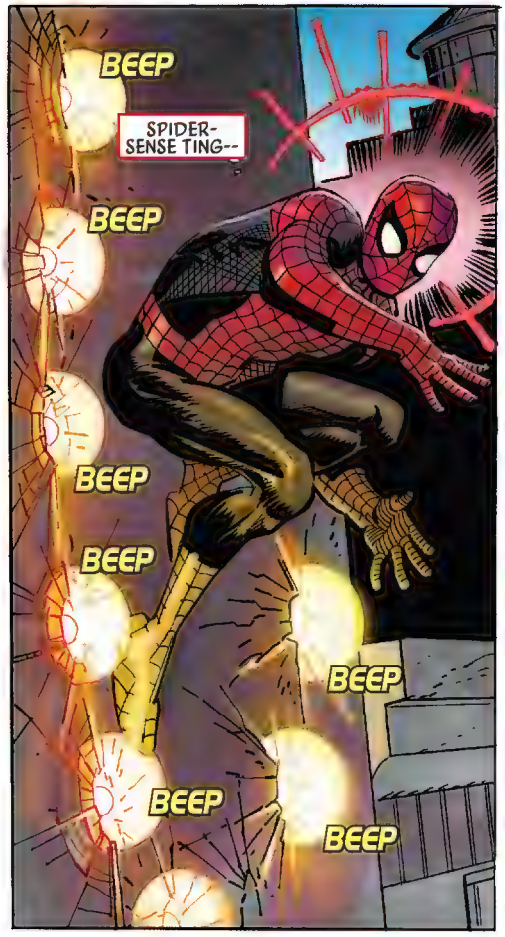
...WHO WILL FALL BEFORE *MENACE!*

DAN SLOTT WRITER	JOHN ROMITA JR. PENCILS	KLAUS JANSON INKS	DEAN WHITE COLORS	VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS	TOM BRENNAN ASST. EDITOR	STEPHEN WACKER EDITOR	TOM BREVOORT EXECUTIVE EDITOR	JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF	DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, SLOTT & WELLS SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

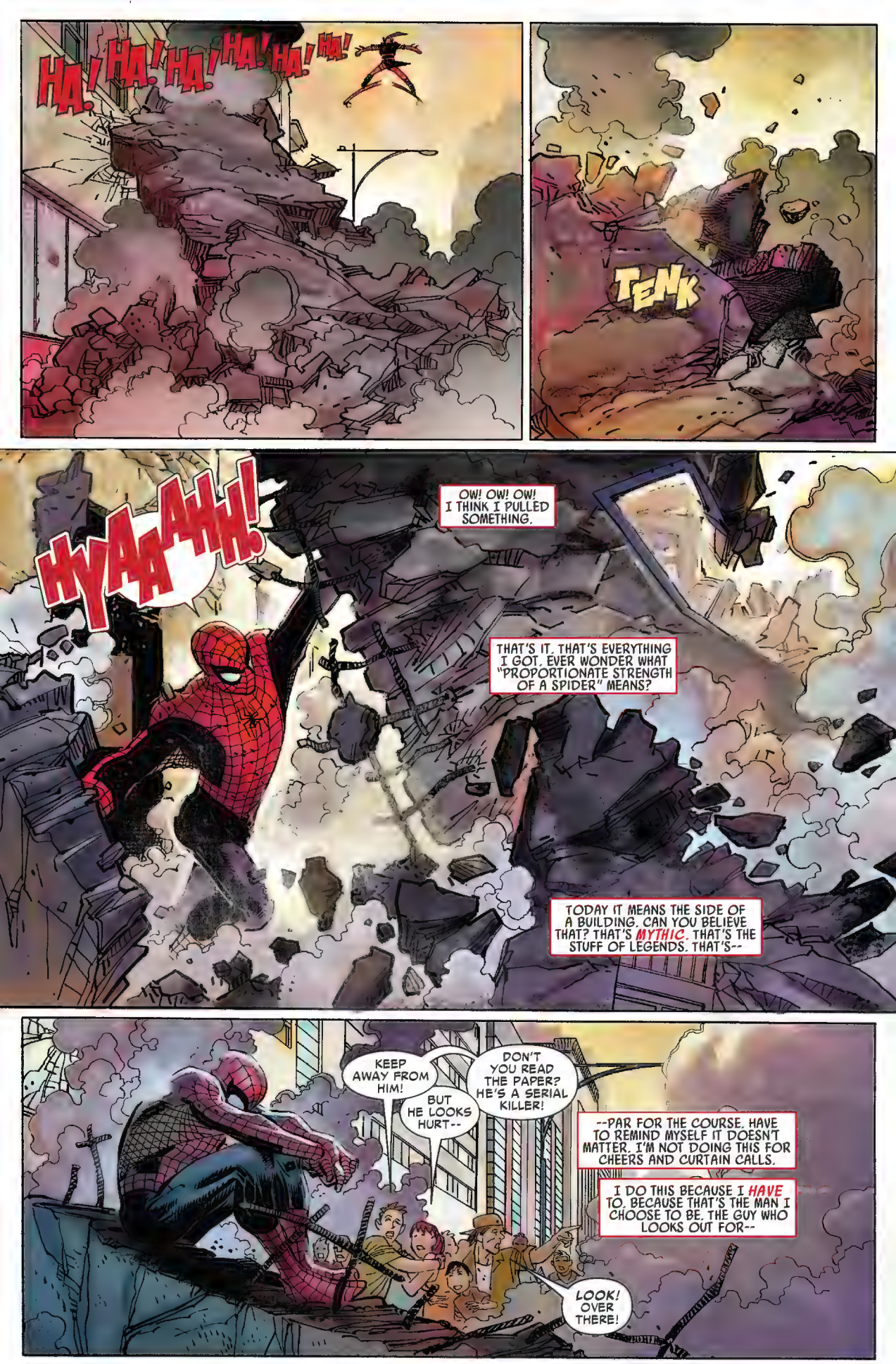

AGAIN WITH THE NAME. "MENACE"? LET'S BE HONEST HERE.
THWIP
THWIP
YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER GOBLIN, AREN'T YOU? AND THAT'S GETTING KINDA OLD.
I MEAN, C'MON. I'VE ALREADY FOUGHT FOUR GREEN GOBLINS.
AGH!
THWAK
THWAK
TWO HOBGOBLINS, THREE FEMBOT GOBLINS...
...GRAY GOBLIN, DEMOGOBLIN, FUTURE GOBLIN...
...FRIED GOBLIN, SHRIMP GOBLIN, GOBLIN ON TOAST...
CHOOM
SHUT UP!!
CHUNK
AWW! A LITTLE "M"!
YOU'VE PERSONALIZED YOUR STUFF. HOW CUTE.


CH-
CH-
CH-
AHHHH!
CHOOM
WAIT! I'VE GOT IT. FROM NOW ON, YOU CAN BE "MOCK-GOBLIN."
I'LL MOCK YOU.
AND YOU CAN EVEN KEEP YOUR LITTLE MONOGRAMMED BALLS.
CHUNK
CHUNK
CHUNK
HA! I WOULDN'T DREAM OF IT.
NOT WHEN YOU'RE SO CLOSE TO THEM.
KLIK


BEEP
SPIDER-SENSE TING--
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

JUMPED AS FAR AS I COULD.
BLAST RANGE TOO GREAT.
CAN FEEL THE WHOLE WALL COMING DOWN.

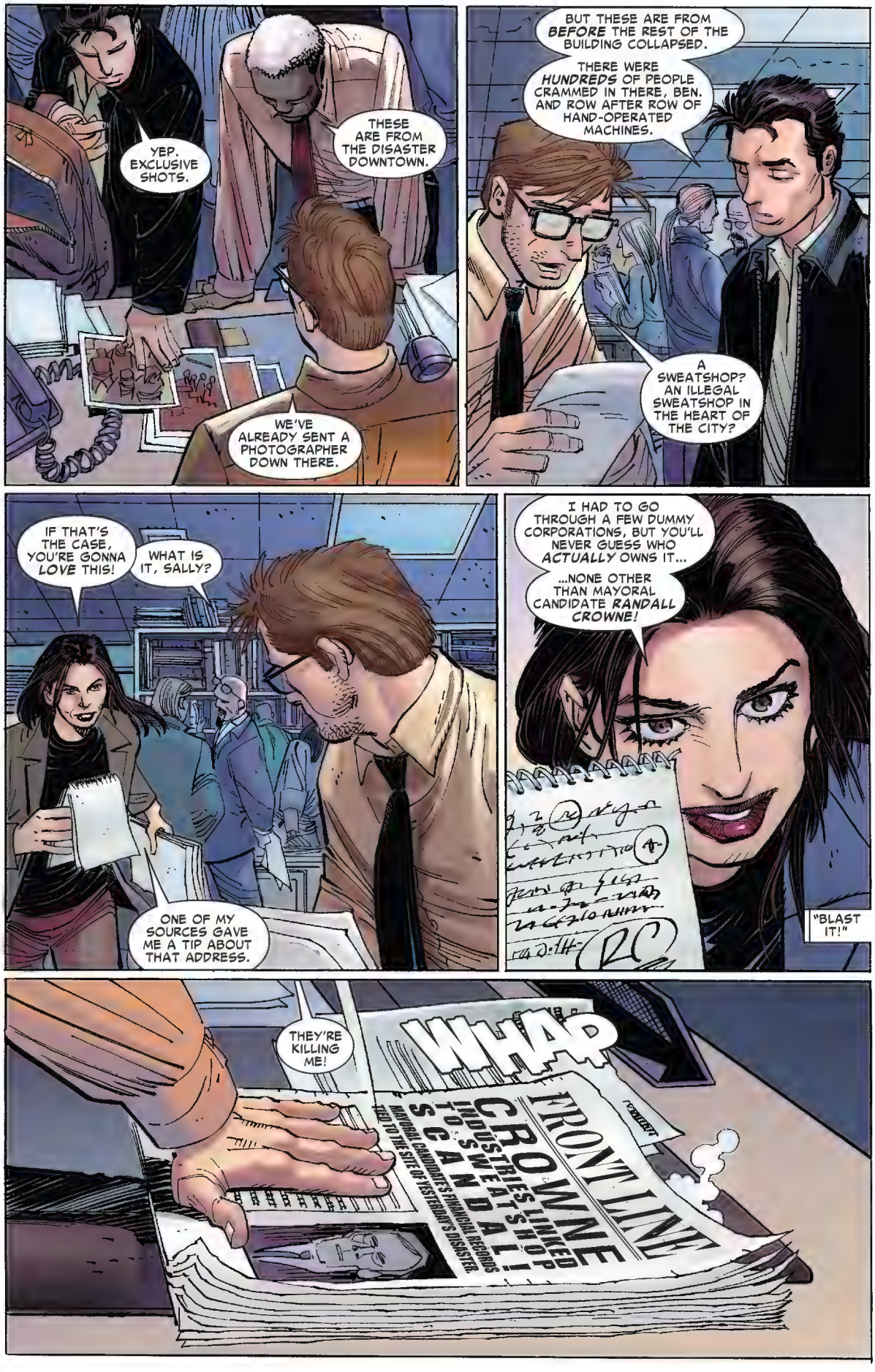
HOPE EVERYONE BELOW IS CLEAR OF THE--
RUNGHH


HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
TENK
HYAAAHH!
OW! OW! OW! I THINK I PULLED SOMETHING.
THAT'S IT. THAT'S EVERYTHING I GOT. EVER WONDER WHAT "PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH OF A SPIDER" MEANS?
TODAY IT MEANS THE SIDE OF A BUILDING. CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT? THAT'S MYTHIC. THAT'S THE STUFF OF LEGENDS. THAT'S--
KEEP AWAY FROM HIM!
BUT HE LOOKS HURT--
DON'T YOU READ THE PAPER? HE'S A SERIAL KILLER!
--PAR FOR THE COURSE. HAVE TO REMIND MYSELF IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'M NOT DOING THIS FOR CHEERS AND CURTAIN CALLS.
I DO THIS BECAUSE I HAVE TO. BECAUSE THAT'S THE MAN I CHOOSE TO BE. THE GUY WHO LOOKS OUT FOR--
LOOK! OVER THERE!

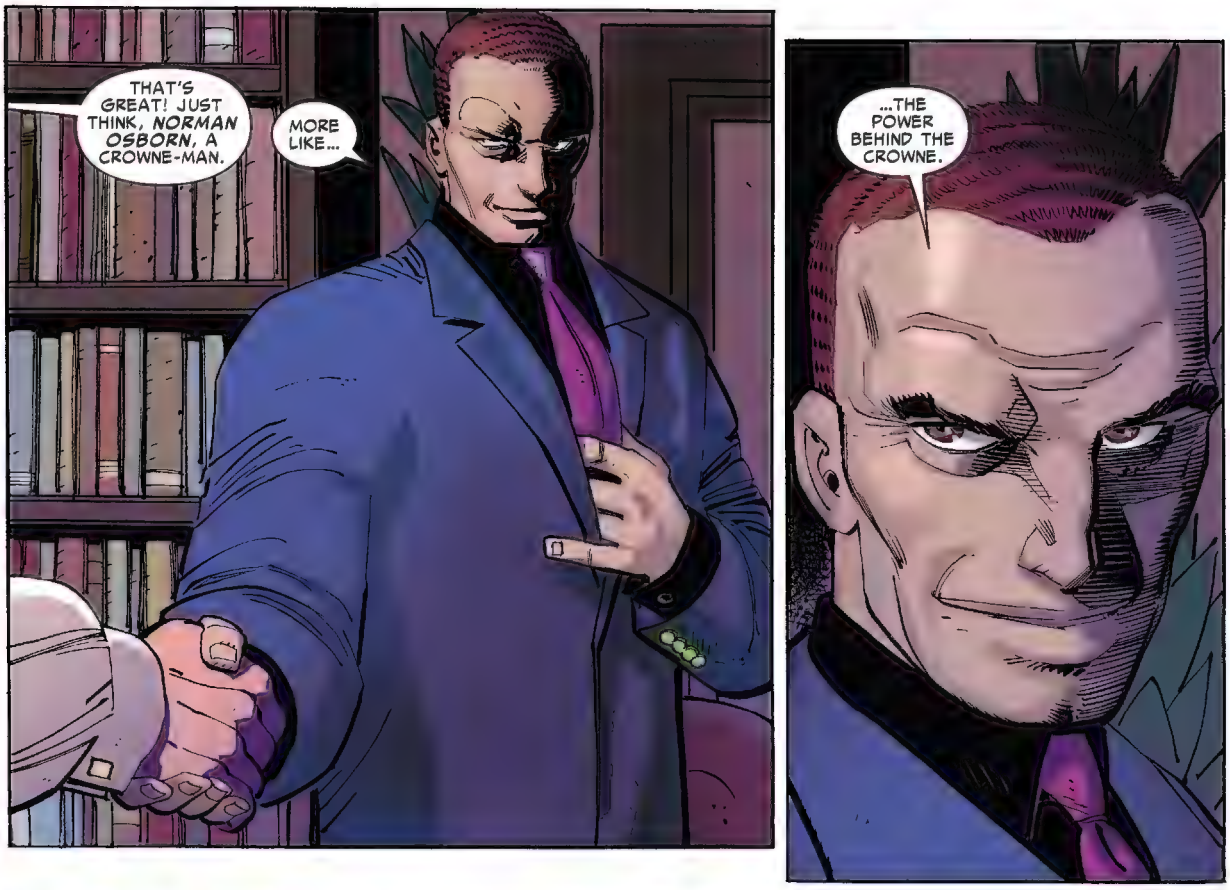
WHAT? WAVE AFTER WAVE OF PEOPLE POURING OUT...
<RUN!>
<HURRY!>
...AND FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, THEY'RE MORE WORRIED ABOUT BEING SEEN...
...THAN THEY ARE OF THE REST OF THAT BUILDING COMING DOWN.
<PLEASE, MEI-LI. WE MUST STAY TOGETHER!>
DON'T NEED SPIDER-SENSE TO TELL ME...
...THERE'S MORE HERE THAN MEETS THE EYE.
KLIK
AFTER A QUICK CHECK TO MAKE SURE NO ONE'S TRAPPED INSIDE...
...I SEE ENOUGH TO KNOW WHY THEY ALL TOOK OFF LIKE THAT.
IT'S THE SAME SCAMPER I'VE BEEN DOING FOR YEARS: THE "BEAT IT BEFORE THE COPS SHOW UP" DASH.

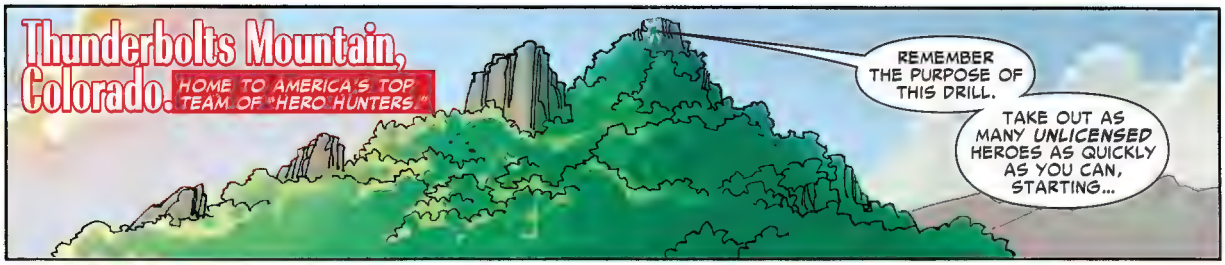
creep creep
PARKER? HEY, PETE. WHAT'S UP?
COULD USE SOME ADVICE--AND MAYBE A FAVOR--FROM MY BUSINESS-SAVVY BEST FRIEND...
AND, HARRY, THE CLOCK'S TICKING.
OKAY. SHOOT.
I STUMBLED ONTO A NEWS STORY TODAY. A BIG ONE. AND I TOOK SOME PICS OF IT. PULITZER-WORTHY STUFF.
SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
DEXTER BENNETT. HE'S GOT ME BLACKLISTED AT EVERY PAPER IN TOWN. SO I WAS WONDERING...
IF ANY OF THE KIDS YOU HAVE WORKING AT THE COFFEE BEAN COULD USE SOME EXTRA CASH...
...MAYBE THEY COULD FRONT FOR ME, SELL THE PICTURES, AND I COULD GIVE 'EM A CUT...
WHY, PETER PARKER! I'M SHOCKED...
...THAT MY STRAIGHT-LACED PAL WOULD SUGGEST SOMETHING SO...DEVIOUS.
REALLY, NOW? A 'SECRET IDENTITY'? YOU'RE NOT THINKING THIS THROUGH.
ALL RIGHT, MR. O. ENLIGHTEN ME.
IF BENNETT'S YOUR ENEMY...
...USE HIS ENEMIES TO YOUR ADVANTAGE.
PLAY THEM OFF OF EACH OTHER.

SURELY THERE'S SOME PAPER OUT THERE THAT'D RUN YOUR PICTURES JUST TO SPITE HIM.
HAROLD THEOPOLIS OSBORN, YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN.
BEN! THE SERVER'S DOWN!
NO, NO, NO! RUN IT AS IS!
CHIEF, WHAT'S OUR LEAD? NURSES' STRIKE OR SANITATION KICKBACKS?
KILL THE FIRST ONE. GO WITH THE SECOND ONE. WHAT?! NO, I'M NOT TALKING TO YOU!
The Offices Of Front Line.
BEN URICH'S "LITTLE PAPER THAT COULD."
YEAH?! WELL IF YOU THINK YOU COULD DO BETTER, THEN...
...YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.
I AGREE. SO WHY DON'T YOU MOVE ASIDE...
AHH! WHAT AM I DOING HERE?! I'M A REPORTER! I SHOULD BE OUT IN THE FIELD!
...AND LET ME DO THE JOB YOU HIRED ME FOR.
ROBBIE, I SWEAR, THE DAY YOU QUIT THE DB WAS ONE OF THE HAPPIEST OF MY LIFE.
AT THE RATE BENNETT'S GOING THROUGH US, IT WON'T BE LONG TILL THE ENTIRE BUGLE STAFF IS OVER HERE.
WELL THERE'S A CUE IF EVER I HEARD ONE.
PETER PARKER! WHAT BRINGS YOU AROUND, KID?
LET ME GUESS. YOU'VE GOT SOME OF YOUR WORLD-CLASS PICTURES WITH YOU?


YEP. EXCLUSIVE SHOTS.
THESE ARE FROM THE DISASTER DOWNTOWN.
WE'VE ALREADY SENT A PHOTOGRAPHER DOWN THERE.
BUT THESE ARE FROM BEFORE THE REST OF THE BUILDING COLLAPSED.
THERE WERE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE CRAMMED IN THERE, BEN. AND ROW AFTER ROW OF HAND-OPERATED MACHINES.
A SWEATSHOP? AN ILLEGAL SWEATSHOP IN THE HEART OF THE CITY?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, YOU'RE GONNA LOVE THIS!
WHAT IS IT, SALLY?
ONE OF MY SOURCES GAVE ME A TIP ABOUT THAT ADDRESS.
I HAD TO GO THROUGH A FEW DUMMY CORPORATIONS, BUT YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHO ACTUALLY OWNS IT...
...NONE OTHER THAN MAYORAL CANDIDATE RANDALL CROWNE!
"BLAST IT!"
THEY'RE KILLING ME!
WHAP
FRONT LINE
CROWNE LINKED TO SWEATSHOP SCANDAL!
MAYORAL CANDIDATE'S FINANCIAL RECORDS LEAD TO THE SITE OF YESTERDAY'S DISASTER.

MY GOOD NAME. MY STANDING IN THE POLLS. MY COMPANY'S PROFITS.
THIS DOWNWARD TREND? IT HAS TO STOP. THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU, OLD FRIEND.
REALLY? AND WHAT CAN I DO?
WHAT *CAN'T* YOU DO? RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE MR. LAW-AND-ORDER. AMERICA CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOU. AND YOUR...OUTFIT.
IF YOU WERE TO COME OUT AND BACK ME, IT COULD SEW UP THE ELECTION.
I'D NEED SOME QUID PRO QUO FIRST.
WHAT? WHAT MORE CAN I...? YOU ALREADY HAVE ACCESS TO MY *"SECRET RESOURCES."*
THAT WAS YESTERDAY. LET'S TALK TODAY.
YOU STILL HAVE PULL WITH THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION. IN ORDER TO BRING MY *"OUTFIT"* IN, I NEED A VERY *SPECIAL* HUNTING PERMIT.
AND PROPER ZONING.
ZONING? WHAT FOR?
FOR THE VICTORY PARADE, OF COURSE. DO WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER?
YES. SO YOU'RE IN?
IN? OH, I'M *MORE* THAN IN.


THAT'S GREAT! JUST THINK, NORMAN OSBORN, A CROWNE-MAN.
MORE LIKE...
...THE POWER BEHIND THE CROWNE.


Thunderbolts Mountain, Colorado.
HOME TO AMERICA'S TOP TEAM OF "HERO HUNTERS."
REMEMBER THE PURPOSE OF THIS DRILL.
TAKE OUT AS MANY UNLICENSED HEROES AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN, STARTING...

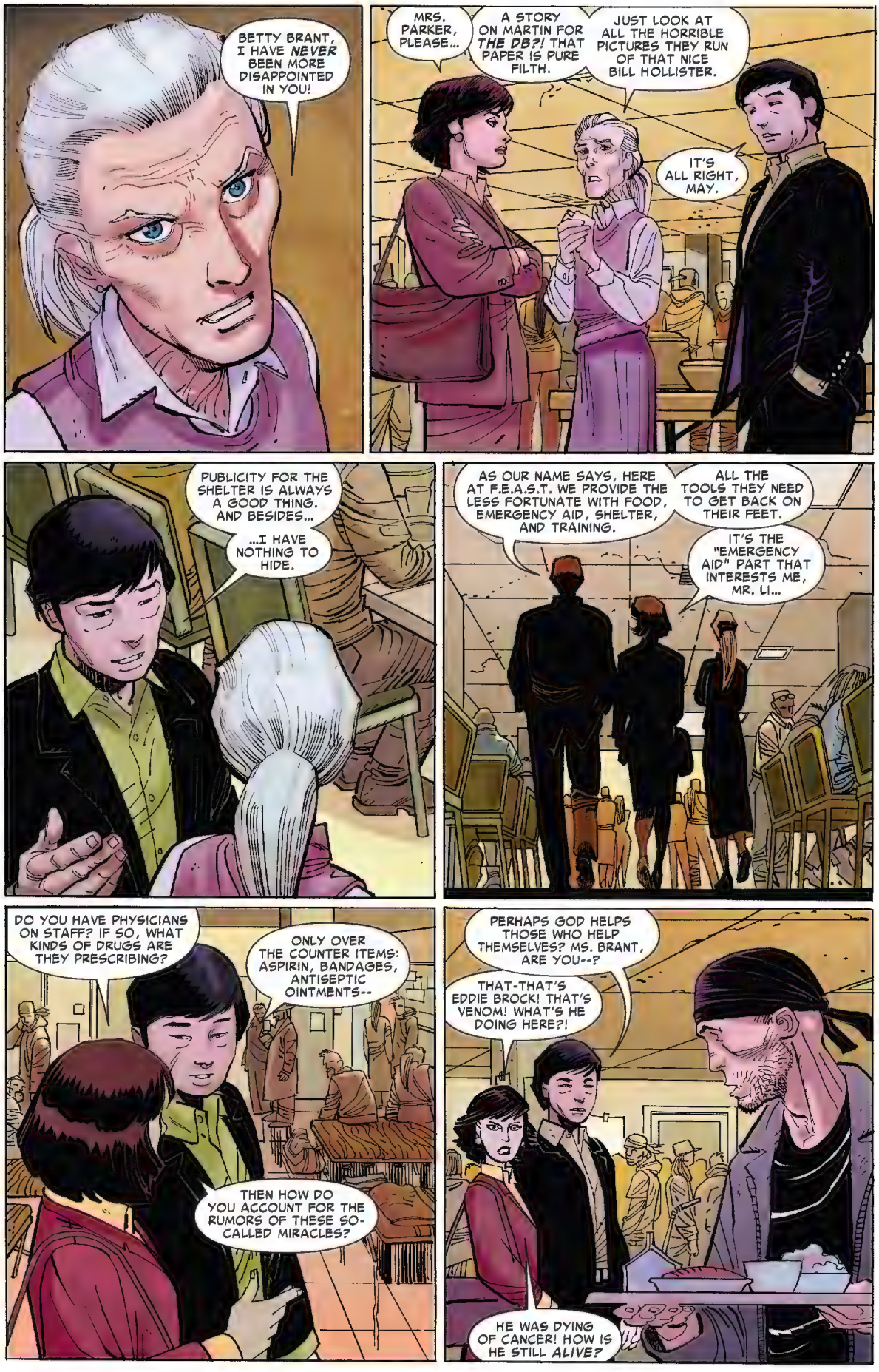
...NOW!
SO MANY CHOICES...
SKREEEEE

THE THUNDER GOD IS MINE
KRRKKZ
WHATEVER, CHEN. GO CRAZY.
BUT ONE GUY AT A TIME JUST DOESN'T DO IT FOR ME.
FWIP
NOT WHILE I'M PLAYING WITH A FULL DECK...
CHEK
THUK
SLIK
...OF THESE T-BOLTS MOST WANTED CARDS.
WITH BULLSEYE, THAT'S PROBABLY THE ONLY FULL DECK HE'S EVER--

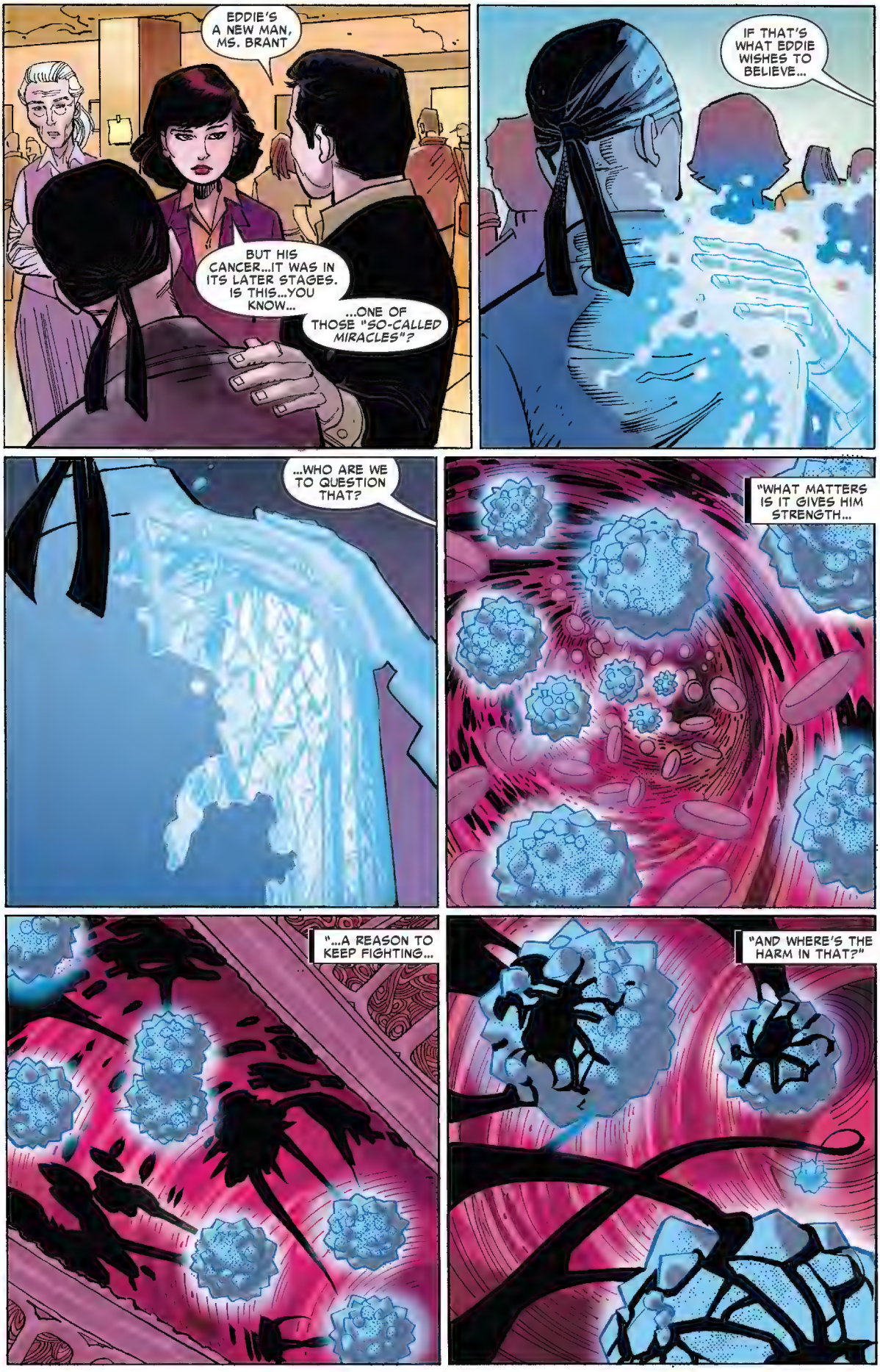
GWARRR!!
SLASH
WASN'T THE POINT OF THIS EXERCISE TO ONLY GO AFTER UNLICENSED HEROES?
RADIOACTIVE MAN! BULLSEYE! STOP HIM BEFORE HE DESTROYS ALL OF OUR TRAINING DUMMIES.
EASY, MEL. MY BOY VENOM'S ON A ROLL.
THE EXERCISE IS TERMINATED, MS. GOLD. WE'VE RECEIVED THE CALL FROM DIRECTOR OSBORN.
SADDLE UP. WE'RE GOING TO NEW YORK.
WHAT'S IN NEW YORK?
HEH! WHAT DO YA THINK?!

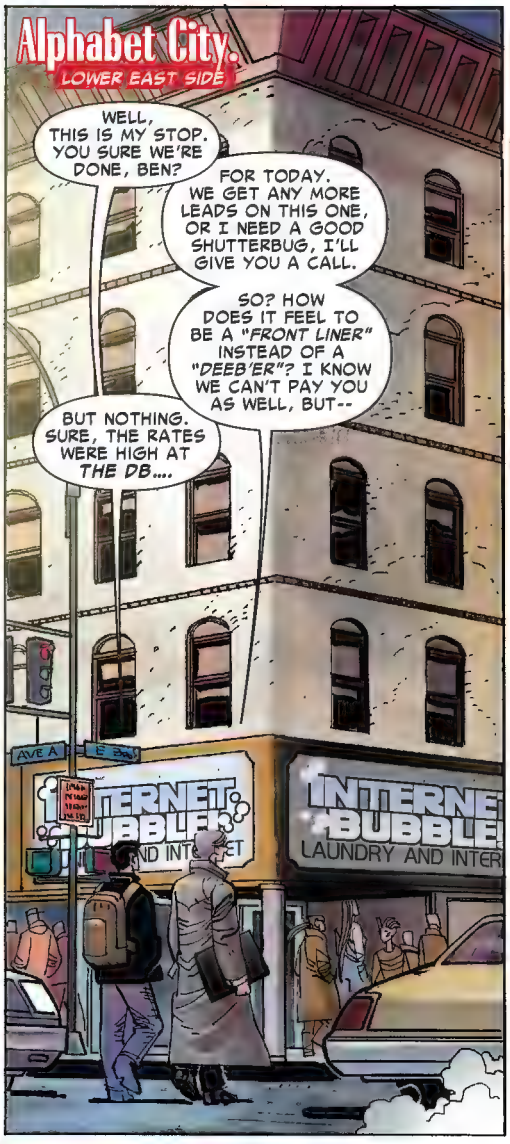
THE DB
THE SPIDER-MAN: SERIAL KILLER STORY, YES. ON THE FRONT PAGE WHERE IT ALWAYS IS.
OF COURSE, RANDALL. TRUST ME, WE'LL HAVE THIS CITY SO TERRIFIED THAT THEY'LL BE GRATEFUL WHEN YOU-- ONE SECOND.
WHAT IS IT, MS. BRANT? CAN'T YOU SEE I'M ON THE PHONE?
YOU WANTED TO SEE ME, BOSS?
AH, YES. I'LL GET BACK TO YOU LATER, R.C.
YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TODAY, MS. BRANT? WE WERE SCOOPED. BY SOME RINKY DINK RAG CALLED FRONT LINE.
THAT CANNOT HAPPEN AGAIN. DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?
GOTCHA. SO YOU WANT ME TO LOOK INTO THE CROWNE/SWEATSHOP SCANDAL AS WELL.
MS. BRANT, WHICH CANDIDATE DO I SUPPORT IN THIS ELECTION?
CROWNE.
SO WHAT DOES THAT MAKE US HERE AT THE DB?
A CROWNE PAPER, SIR.
SO, FOR THE SAKE OF FAIR AND BALANCED REPORTING...
...WE ARE GOING TO COUNTER WITH A SCANDAL ABOUT THIS MAN, BILLIONAIRE MARTIN LI...
...WHO JUST HAPPENS TO BE ONE OF BILL HOLLISTER'S BIGGEST SUPPORTERS.

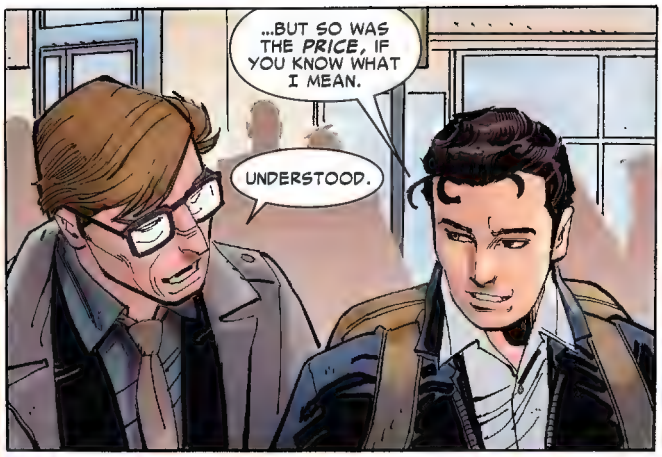
YOU'RE SERIOUS? YOU WANT ME TO DIG UP DIRT ON MARTIN "THE MARTYR" LI?
FOUNDER OF THE F.E.A.S.T. HOMELESS SHELTERS? PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR? THAT MARTIN LI?
PRE-CISELY.
NO ONE IS THAT SQUEAKY CLEAN. AND NOW...?
NOW IT'S BORDERING ON THE ABSURD. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT ALL THE TERMINALLY ILL IN HIS SHELTERS...
...ARE MIRACULOUSLY GETTING HEALED! WOOO-OOO!
WHAT A LOAD OF BUNK! TRUST ME...
"...EVERYONE HAS A DARK SIDE, MS. BRANT.
"AND I'M MAKING IT YOUR JOB TO FIND HIS."
ALL RIGHT, HERE GOES. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M SO NERVOUS ABOUT.
THE MAN RUNS A HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM. WHAT'S THE WORST HE CAN THROW AT ME?
HELP
HELP


BETTY BRANT, I HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE DISAPPOINTED IN YOU!
MRS. PARKER, PLEASE...
A STORY ON MARTIN FOR THE DB?! THAT PAPER IS PURE FILTH.
JUST LOOK AT ALL THE HORRIBLE PICTURES THEY RUN OF THAT NICE BILL HOLLISTER.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, MAY.
PUBLICITY FOR THE SHELTER IS ALWAYS A GOOD THING. AND BESIDES...
...I HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE.
AS OUR NAME SAYS, HERE AT F.E.A.S.T. WE PROVIDE THE LESS FORTUNATE WITH FOOD, EMERGENCY AID, SHELTER, AND TRAINING.
ALL THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO GET BACK ON THEIR FEET.
IT'S THE "EMERGENCY AID" PART THAT INTERESTS ME, MR. LI...
DO YOU HAVE PHYSICIANS ON STAFF? IF SO, WHAT KINDS OF DRUGS ARE THEY PRESCRIBING?
ONLY OVER THE COUNTER ITEMS: ASPIRIN, BANDAGES, ANTISEPTIC OINTMENTS--
THEN HOW DO YOU ACCOUNT FOR THE RUMORS OF THESE SO-CALLED MIRACLES?
PERHAPS GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES? MS. BRANT, ARE YOU--?
THAT-THAT'S EDDIE BROCK! THAT'S VENOM! WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?!
HE WAS DYING OF CANCER! HOW IS HE STILL ALIVE?

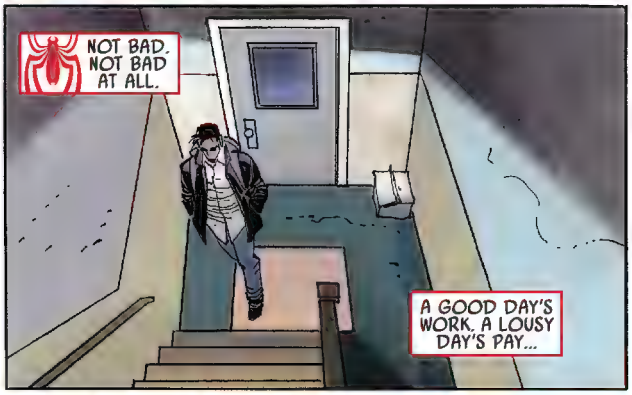
MR. LI?
IT'S OKAY, EDDIE. TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS, MS. BRANT, HE'S HERE BECAUSE HE ASKED FOR HELP.
HE'S STILL ALIVE BECAUSE INSTEAD OF A CANCER *VICTIM*, HE CHOOSES TO BE A CANCER *SURVIVOR*.
AND AS FOR VENOM? *THAT'S* WHAT MADE ME SICK, BETTY, INSIDE AND OUT.
BUT I GOT RID OF IT. I CAST IT OUT. AND I FILLED THAT EMPTINESS, THAT VOID, WITH *FAITH*.
IT'S TRUE.
THAT WAS HOW I MET MR. BROCK, PRAYING FOR FORGIVENESS...
"...IN THE SAME CHURCH WHERE HE HAD ONCE PRAYED FOR VENGEANCE.
"I OFFERED A PATH TO MR. BROCK, A JOB AT THE F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT...
"...AND A CHANCE TO USE HIS REMAINING DAYS HELPING THOSE WHO WERE EVEN LESS FORTUNATE.
"AS EDDIE SOUGHT TO FIND A NEW FUTURE FOR HIMSELF...
"...I ASKED A FRIEND OF MINE, A LAWYER WHO'S BEEN VERY GENEROUS TO OUR HELL'S KITCHEN BRANCH...
"...TO HELP EDDIE FIND A WAY TO RESTORE HIS PAST.
"IN AN EXONERATION HEARING HE PROVED TO THE COURT THAT EDDIE BROCK WAS NOT IN CONTROL OF HIS ACTIONS WHILE VENOM WAS BONDED TO BOTH HIS BODY AND MIND."


EDDIE'S A NEW MAN, MS. BRANT
BUT HIS CANCER...IT WAS IN ITS LATER STAGES. IS THIS...YOU KNOW...
...ONE OF THOSE "SO-CALLED MIRACLES"?
IF THAT'S WHAT EDDIE WISHES TO BELIEVE...
...WHO ARE WE TO QUESTION THAT?
"WHAT MATTERS IS IT GIVES HIM STRENGTH...
"...A REASON TO KEEP FIGHTING...
"AND WHERE'S THE HARM IN THAT?"


Alphabet City.
LOWER EAST SIDE
WELL, THIS IS MY STOP. YOU SURE WE'RE DONE, BEN?
FOR TODAY. WE GET ANY MORE LEADS ON THIS ONE, OR I NEED A GOOD SHUTTERBUG, I'LL GIVE YOU A CALL.
SO? HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE A "FRONT LINER" INSTEAD OF A "DEEB'ER"? I KNOW WE CAN'T PAY YOU AS WELL, BUT--
BUT NOTHING. SURE, THE RATES WERE HIGH AT THE DB....
AVE A
INTERNET BUBBLE
LAUNDRY AND INTER


...BUT SO WAS THE PRICE, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
UNDERSTOOD.

GOOD TO BE WORKING WITH YOU AGAIN, PARKER.
THANKS.


NOT BAD. NOT BAD AT ALL.
A GOOD DAY'S WORK. A LOUSY DAY'S PAY...

5B
BUT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG TIME, I TOOK SOME PHOTOS...
...AND DIDN'T FEEL THE NEED TO SHOWER OFF A LAYER OF TABLOID-SLIME WHEN I GOT...

5B
...HOME?
SPIDER-SENSE? WHAT ON EARTH KICKED OFF MY--

HEY!
HE SPOTTED ME! DON'T KNOW HOW BUT--
DOESN'T MATTER! EVERYONE FALL IN!
WAIT! GUYS, I KNOW WHAT THIS IS ABOUT...
...IT'S AN HONEST MISTAKE.
WHSHH
I WALKED OUT OF THE STORE, AND THE SHIRT STILL HAD THE TAG ON IT.
WHY DON'T WE GO BACK AND RING IT UP?
YOU ARE FROM THE GAP, RIGHT?
SMART GUY, HUH?
YEAH. BUT HE'S SURE GOT THE MOVES.

GUY'S GOT A POINT.
PLAIN OL' PETER PARKER SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PUT UP THIS MUCH OF A FIGHT.
GOT A HOLD OF 'IM!
PUT HIM DOWN!
BETTER PLAY ALONG, FOR NOW...
WAP
OKAY, I TAKE IT BACK. YOU'RE NOT FROM THE GAP.
THE WAY YOU HIT, I'M THINKING BABY GAP.
POK
CUTE. TRY LAUGHING THIS OFF!
OKAY, SO WHAT'S THE DEAL? WHY DID THEY WANT ME INSIDE MY OWN APARTMENT SO...
...BADLY.
WELL, WELL, WELL...
NO!

PARKER...

To Be Continued...

OSCORP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN I DIDN'T QUALIFY FOR TREATMENT?
I HAVE TERMINAL CANCER! HOW CAN I NOT QUALIFY?
MR. BROCK--
THESE CLINICAL TRIALS WERE MY LAST HOPE! MA'AM, YOU HAVE TO GET ME IN!
MR. BROCK--EDDIE--LET'S TAKE A BREATH--
IT HURTS TO BREATHE! IT HURTS TO TALK! IT HURTS TO DO ANYTHING!
DO YOU GET THAT?
THESE ARE EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENTS AND, I'M SORRY, BUT OUR TESTS SHOW YOU DO NOT QUALIFY.
MY HANDS ARE TIED.
MINE AREN'T.
--ISTER BROCK? ARE YOU PAYING ATTENTION? YOU GLAZED OVER THERE FOR A SECOND.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I HAVE OTHER CANDIDATES TO--
--TO INTERVIEW.
DISAPPOINT.
I...
LISTEN, YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK IN WITH YOUR ONCOLOGIST. YOU LOOK A LITTLE... ROUGH.
I WOULDN'T KNOW.

FOR A LONG TIME, MY BODY HOSTED AN ALIEN SYMBIOTE CALLED VENOM.
IT BROUGHT OUT THE WORST IN ME.
EVENTUALLY, IT DEPARTED, BUT ITS POISON STILL LINGERS.
IN MANY PAINFUL WAYS VENOM STILL RUSTLES INSIDE ME...STILL WHISPERS UGLY WORDS IN MY EAR, STILL BUBBLES AND BOILS...AND IT'S A CONSTANT STRUGGLE TO TAMP HIM DOWN.
IT'S ESPECIALLY HARD NOT TO RESENT WHAT HE TOOK FROM ME THAT I NEVER GOT BACK:

MY FACE.
I HAVEN'T SEEN MY OWN FACE IN THE MIRROR SINCE THE DAY VENOM FIRST POSSESSED ME. NOT ONCE.
WHAT MUST I LOOK LIKE AFTER ALL THE CHEMO AND SICKNESS?
AM I AS UGLY ON THE OUTSIDE AS I AM ON THE INSIDE?

FIFTH STAGE

MARK WAID	ADI GRANOV	VC'S CORY PETIT	TOM BRENNAN	STEPHEN WACKER	TOM BREVOORT	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY
WRITER	ARTIST	LETTERS	ASST. EDITOR	EDITOR	EXECUTIVE EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, SLOTT & WELLS SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

I'VE BEEN TRYING SO VERY HARD TO FIGHT BACK THE DARKNESS. HAVING THAT OSCORP STRAW TO GRASP WAS A HUGE HELP.
NOW ALL I HAVE LEFT IS FAITH THAT MAYBE...
...JUST MAYBE...
FOOD, EMERGENCY AID, SHELTER AND TRAINING
...I CAN EARN MY WAY INTO HEAVEN BEFORE I DIE.
MARTIN LI AND MAY PARKER LET ME SPEND MY DAYS...THE GOOD ONES, ANYWAY... SERVING THE HOMELESS AT THEIR F.E.A.S.T. CENTER.
IT'S HARD WORK, BUT IT'S REWARDING.
AND COMFORTING-- TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE LAST FAMILY I'LL EVER HAVE. THAT'S ALL I'VE GOT LEFT.
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING ABOUT THE JOB I DON'T CARE FOR:

MIKE, ONE OF THE SHELTERED.
NO LAST NAME. NO TALKING ABOUT WHAT BROUGHT HIM HERE, OR WHY HE'S ON THE STREETS.
JUST AN ATTITUDE.
UNLIKE EVERYONE ELSE, EVEN WITH ZERO IN HIS POCKETS, MIKE IS AN INGRATE.
DAY AFTER DAY, NOTHING I EVER OFFER SEEMS GOOD ENOUGH.
HE REMINDS ME OF MY DAD IN A WAY--HOW THERE'S ONLY PUNISHMENT IN TRYING TO PLEASE HIM.
IT TAKES ALL THE ENERGY I HAVE TO IGNORE HOW MUCH I HATE HIM.
#SNFF# WHAT IS THIS SLOP? INNIT S'POSED T' LOOK BETTER GOIN' INTO ME THAN IT WILL COMIN' OUT?
AND I'M NOT STRONG TODAY.
TAKE THIS CRAP OUTTA MY FACE AND BRING ME SOME REAL FOOD...
...BOY.

BOY?
WHAT. RIGHT DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO RELENTLESSLY UNGRATEFUL?
DO YOU THINK YOUR LIFE IS OVER NOW BECAUSE YOU'RE HOMELESS?
HAS POOR MIKE CONVINCED HIMSELF THE FUTURE LOOKS BLEAK?
IS THAT IT?
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT BLEAK IS?
DO YOU GET TO LIVE, MIKE?
DO YOU HAVE CANCER?
ARE YOU GOING TO DIE SOON?
WELL?

EDDIE!
...
FORGIVE ME, MR. LI. I WAS... LOST IN THOUGHT. I'LL BE FI--
EDDIE...
...WHAT HAVE YOU DONE...?
OH, EDDIE...

I CAN HEAR THE OTHER MEN MUTTERING.
"MIKE THREW A TRAY."
"ATTACKED EDDIE."
"SELF-DEFENSE."
EDDIE, WAIT--!
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY
THE DAMAGE IS DONE.
I CAN NEVER GO BACK.
HOW CAN I SHOW MY FACE?

I USED TO GET DOWN ON MY KNEES AND PRAY TO GOD AFTER A BLOW-UP LIKE THAT.
I'D BEG HIM TO GIVE ME ONE MORE CHANCE...JUST ONE... TO MAKE IT RIGHT.
I DON'T EVEN WANT *THAT* MUCH ANYMORE.
I JUST WANT TO BE PUT OUT OF MY MISERY ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. PLEASE, GOD, PLEASE.
I JUST WANT THIS LIFE TO BE OVER.
THAT'S THE ONLY WISH I HAVE LEFT.
MR. BROCK? THE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW.

INTERESTING.
I SEE HERE THAT YOU WERE TURNED DOWN FOR A CLINICAL TRIAL AT OSCORP.
YEAH.
JUST AS WELL.
YEAH.
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I--
EDDIE, STAND UP. COME OVER HERE TO THE SINK.
I'D RATHER NOT.
COME ON. I'LL HELP YOU.
EDDIE, I WANT YOU TO LOOK IN THAT MIRROR AND TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE.

BECAUSE I SEE A MAN TOTALLY WITHOUT CANCER.
CONGRATULATIONS, MR. BROCK.
H--HOW--?
I CANNOT EXPLAIN IT, EDDIE... BUT THIS IS BEYOND SIMPLE REMISSION. YOU ARE IN PERFECT HEALTH. SOMEONE UP THERE HAS GIVEN YOU A SECOND CHANCE.
WE RAN YOUR TESTS REPEATEDLY TO BE COMPLETELY SURE, AND, WELL...
...I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO SAY THIS, BUT...I THINK OUR WORK HERE IS DONE.
IT'S...DOCTOR, I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH...!
I'VE NEVER WITNESSED ANYTHING LIKE IT. GO. LIVE A GOOD, LONG LIFE. HOW DO YOU PLAN TO CELEBRATE?
...
I'M GOING TO REFLECT.
End.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #569

NEW WAYS TO DIE
PART TWO
THE OSBORN SUPREMACY

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JOHN ROMITA JR. PENCILS
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VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS
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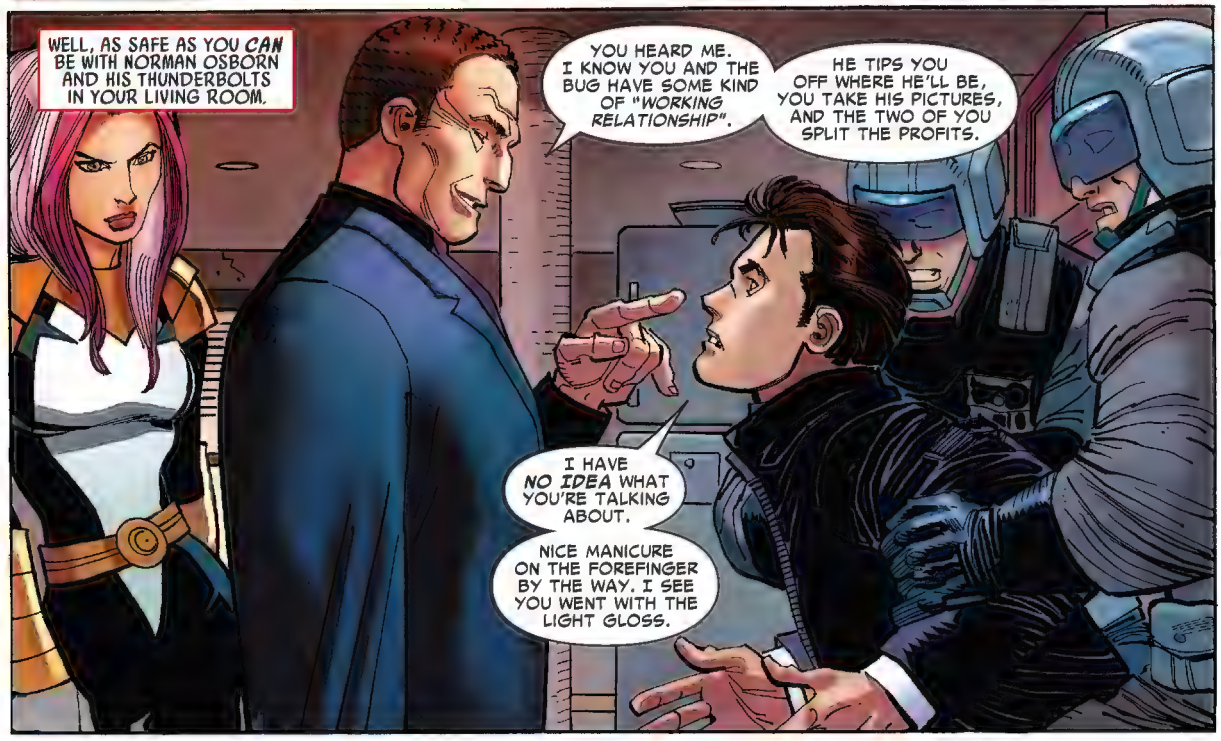
GALE, GUGGENHEIM, SLOTT & WELLS SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

WHA--?
AH, RIGHT. HE DOESN'T REMEMBER ANYMORE. HE HAS *NO* IDEA I'M SPIDEY. NOBODY DOES.
EVERYTHING *WE* DID IS STILL UP AND RUNNING. I'M SAFE.


WELL, AS SAFE AS YOU *CAN* BE WITH NORMAN OSBORN AND HIS THUNDERBOLTS IN YOUR LIVING ROOM.
YOU HEARD ME. I KNOW YOU AND THE BUG HAVE SOME KIND OF "*WORKING RELATIONSHIP*".
HE TIPS YOU OFF WHERE HE'LL BE, YOU TAKE HIS PICTURES, AND THE TWO OF YOU SPLIT THE PROFITS.
I HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
NICE MANICURE ON THE FOREFINGER BY THE WAY. I SEE YOU WENT WITH THE LIGHT GLOSS.

ALL RIGHT. THE HARD WAY. T-BOLTS, TOSS THE ROOM.
HE MUST HAVE SOME WAY OF CONTACTING THE WALL-CRAWLER. FIND IT.
YOU GOT ME, NORMIE. THAT'S MY SPECIAL SIGNAL-COUCH. IT ALSO UNFOLDS INTO A SLEEPER.
HEY, GARGAN!

YOU MIND PUTTING THAT BACK? THAT'S A PRIVATE--
DO WE MIND? YESSS, WE DO. WHERE'SSS OUR CUT, PARKER? ALL THOSE YEARSSS YOU TOOK OUR PICTURESSS...
...WHEN I WASSS THE SCORPION. WHEN MY OTHER WASSS WITH BROCK...AND...AND... THE SPIDER.

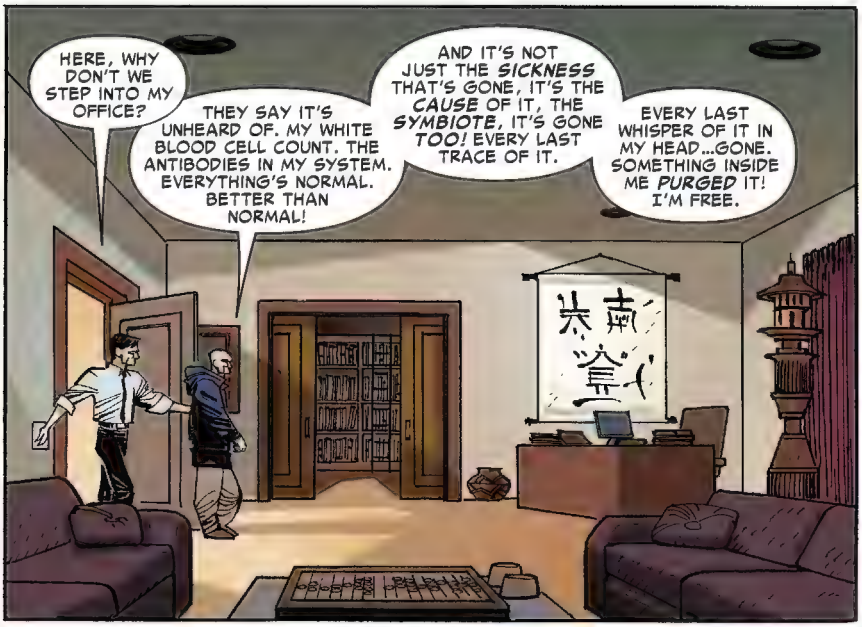
IT'SSS ONLY FAIR THAT WE TAKE ONE OF YOURSSS.
KSHH

STOP IT! WHAT GIVES YOU THE--
I'M TRYING TO HELP YOU, SON. IF YOU'RE WITHHOLDING INFORMATION ABOUT A DANGEROUS FUGITIVE...
...YOU COULD BE IN A WORLD OF TROUBLE.
YEAH?! AND WHAT'S THIS?

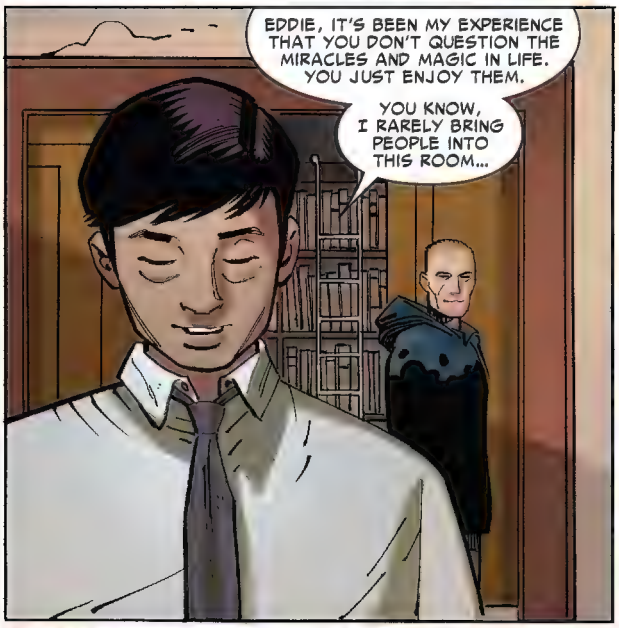
A PRELUDE. I'VE BEEN GOING EASY ON YOU, PETER, BECAUSE...
...YOU'RE A FRIEND OF THE FAMILY. NEXT TIME, HOWEVER...
DIRECTOR OSBORN?
WHAT IS IT?!
THIS IS COLEMAN, SIR, ON THE ROOF.
YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT PARKER'S ROOMMATE, THE COP.
I HAVE A POSITIVE I.D. HE'S ON HIS WAY UP.
VERY WELL. WE'RE DONE HERE. MOVE OUT.
SEE YOU AROUND, PARKER. KISSS KISSS.
GARGAN, HEEL.
WHOA! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU CAN'T JUST BARGE INTO SOMEBODY'S HOME AND THEN--
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF, BOY. ASK YOUR FRIEND, THE BUG. HE'LL TELL YOU.
AND NEXT TIME YOU DO SEE HIM, YOU BE SURE TO LET HIM KNOW...
...THERE'S A NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN.

NORMAN OSBORN. HARRY'S DAD. THE GREEN GOBLIN. HE'S BACK.
NOT SOME TWO-BIT KNOCKOFF LIKE MENACE. THE REAL DEAL.
AND WITH THE THUNDERBOLTS. JUST VENOM WOULD BE BAD ENOUGH...
LAST TIME I RAN INTO 'EM IT WAS A CHANCE ENCOUNTER. THIS TIME THEY'RE GUNNING FOR ME!
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST LAY LOW AND WAIT THEM--
HEY, PETE.
UH, VIN, YOU DIDN'T PASS ANYONE IN THE HALL, HUH? LIKE, OH...
SOME STORM TROOPERS? A POINTY-TOOTHED MONSTER? GUY IN A HAZMAT SUIT? NOTHING LIKE THAT?
PARKER? WHAT ARE YOU ON ABOU--
OH, MAN!
WHAT'D I TELL YOU WHEN YOU MOVED IN, HUH?
NO PARTIES!
SLAM
YOU BETTER GET THAT ALL CLEANED UP!
BUT I DIDN'T...
BUT...
I SWEAR, MAN, I'LL KICK YOU OUT ONTO THE STREET!

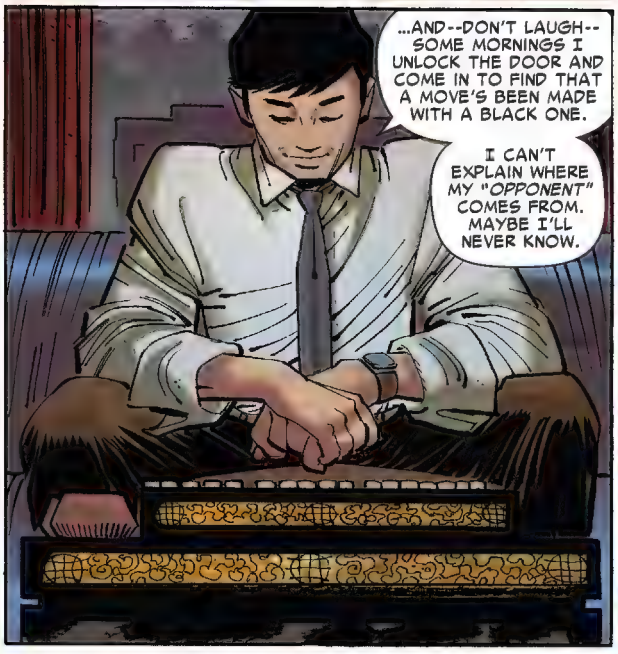
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
The F.E.A.S.T. Homeless Shelter.
ON AVENUE A
MR. LI! MRS. PARKER!
EDDIE BROCK, JUST LOOK AT YOU. WE BETTER DRY YOU OFF BEFORE YOU CATCH YOUR DEATH.
NO, I WON'T. I MEAN...I'VE JUST COME BACK FROM THE DOCTOR.
I'M...I'M CURED. THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE CANCER. NONE AT ALL!
OH, EDWARD, THAT'S WONDERFUL! WHAT HAVE I BEEN SAYING, MARTIN?
IT'S ANOTHER MIRACLE! THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THIS PLACE...
NOW MAY, LET'S NOT GET EVERYONE WORKED UP. BUT STILL, THAT'S GREAT NEWS, EDDIE. I'M VERY HAPPY FOR YOU.
IT'S BARELY BEEN AN HOUR SINCE THEY TOLD ME, AND I-I CAN'T...
DARE
...I CAN'T STOP CRYING...
EASY, MY FRIEND.
MAY, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN RUN THINGS OUT HERE FOR A WHILE?
ALL RIGHT, BUT HURRY BACK.
EVER SINCE WE'VE BEEN BLESSED BY ALL OF THESE "YOU-KNOW-WHATS," THE CROWDS HAVE BEEN POURING IN.
DAD

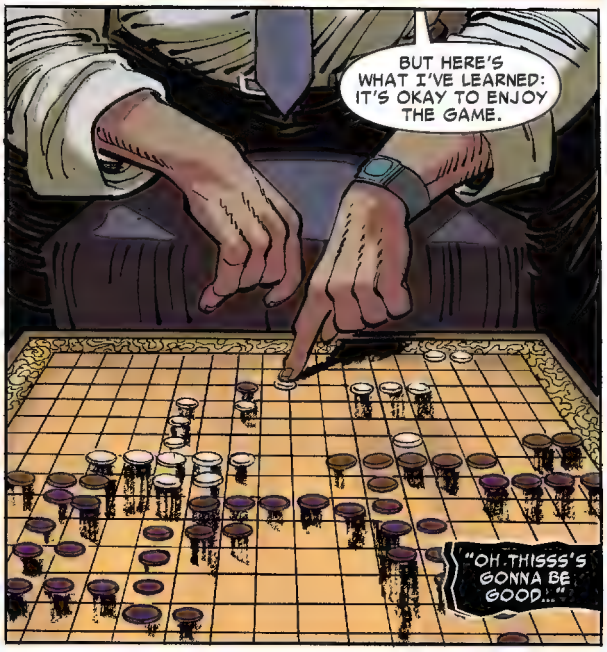

HERE, WHY DON'T WE STEP INTO MY OFFICE?
THEY SAY IT'S UNHEARD OF. MY WHITE BLOOD CELL COUNT. THE ANTIBODIES IN MY SYSTEM. EVERYTHING'S NORMAL. BETTER THAN NORMAL!
AND IT'S NOT JUST THE SICKNESS THAT'S GONE, IT'S THE CAUSE OF IT, THE SYMBIOTE, IT'S GONE TOO! EVERY LAST TRACE OF IT.
EVERY LAST WHISPER OF IT IN MY HEAD...GONE. SOMETHING INSIDE ME PURGED IT! I'M FREE.

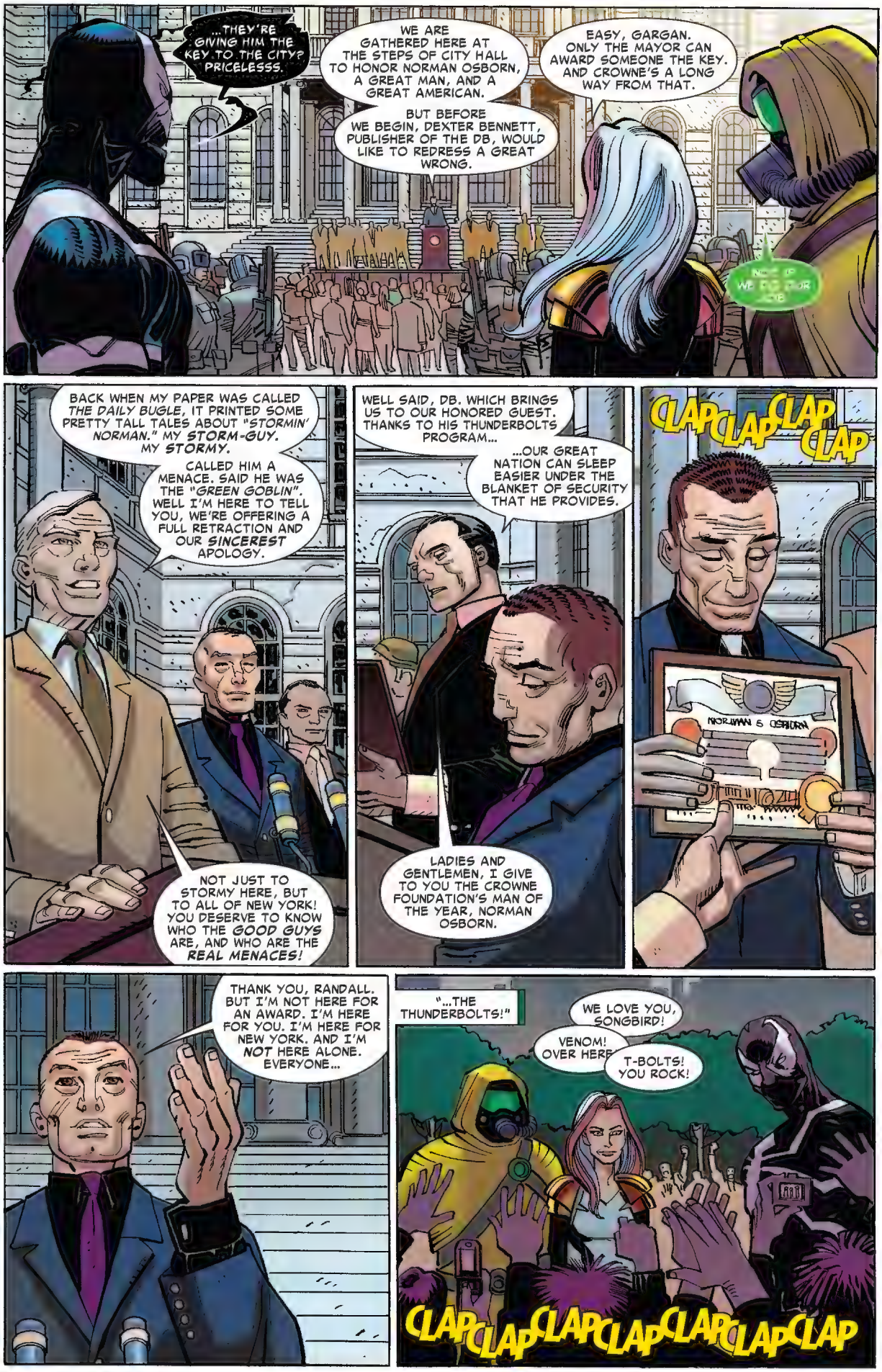
AND I DON'T KNOW WHY.
THE LIFE I'VE LED. THE...THINGS I'VE DONE. I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DID TO DESERVE...


EDDIE, IT'S BEEN MY EXPERIENCE THAT YOU DON'T QUESTION THE MIRACLES AND MAGIC IN LIFE. YOU JUST ENJOY THEM.
YOU KNOW, I RARELY BRING PEOPLE INTO THIS ROOM...

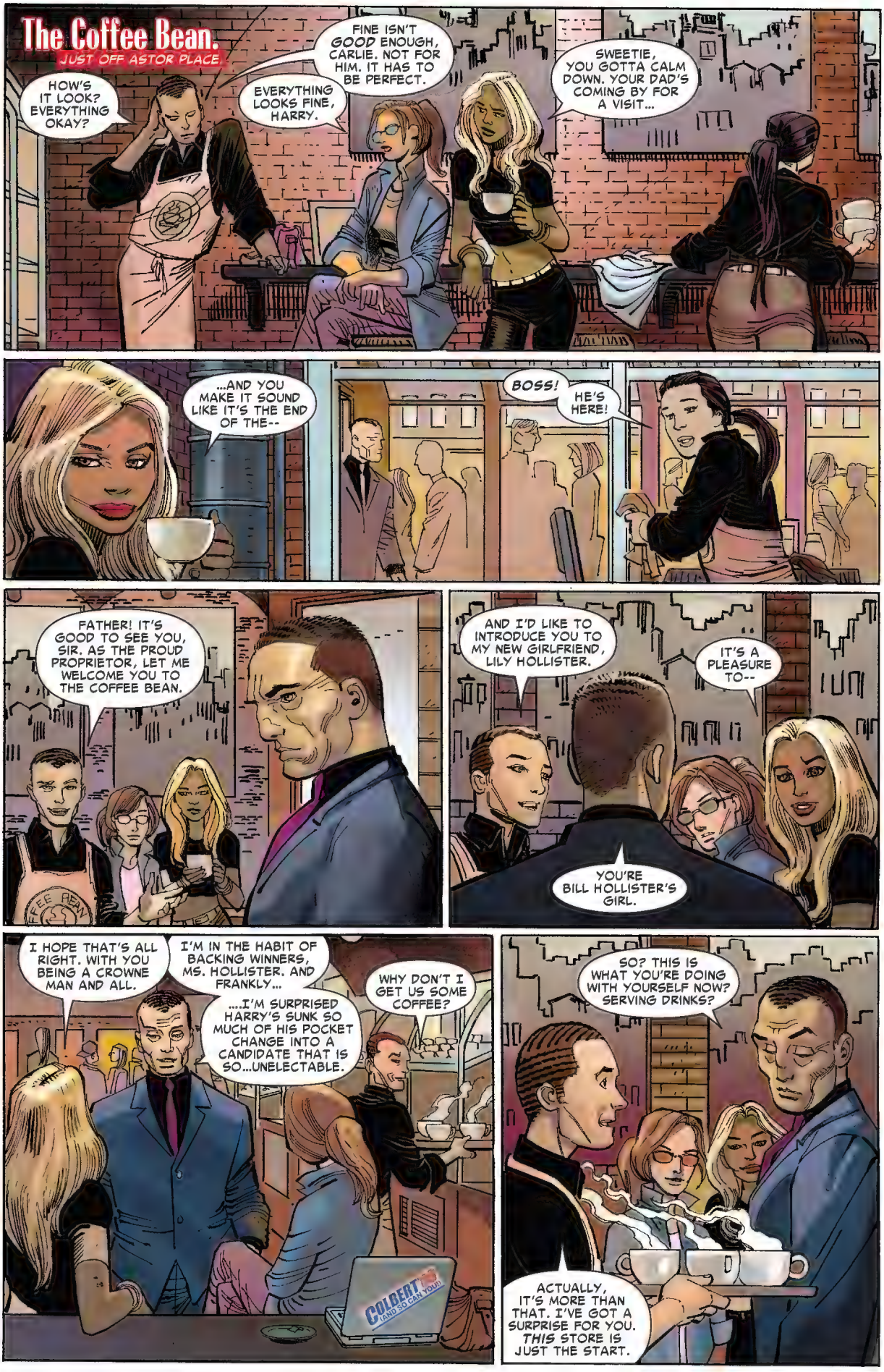
IT'S MY PRIVATE SANCTUARY. AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'VE FOUND SOME MAGIC HERE TOO. SEE THIS BOARD?
I HAVE IT SET UP FOR A GAME OF GO. EVERY DAY OR SO, I MAKE A MOVE WITH ONE OF THE WHITE PIECES...


...AND--DON'T LAUGH--SOME MORNINGS I UNLOCK THE DOOR AND COME IN TO FIND THAT A MOVE'S BEEN MADE WITH A BLACK ONE.
I CAN'T EXPLAIN WHERE MY "OPPONENT" COMES FROM. MAYBE I'LL NEVER KNOW.


BUT HERE'S WHAT I'VE LEARNED: IT'S OKAY TO ENJOY THE GAME.
"OH.THISSS'S GONNA BE GOOD..."


...THEY'RE GIVING HIM THE KEY TO THE CITY? PRICELESSS.
WE ARE GATHERED HERE AT THE STEPS OF CITY HALL TO HONOR NORMAN OSBORN, A GREAT MAN, AND A GREAT AMERICAN.
BUT BEFORE WE BEGIN, DEXTER BENNETT, PUBLISHER OF THE DB, WOULD LIKE TO REDRESS A GREAT WRONG.
EASY, GARGAN. ONLY THE MAYOR CAN AWARD SOMEONE THE KEY. AND CROWNE'S A LONG WAY FROM THAT.
BACK WHEN MY PAPER WAS CALLED THE DAILY BUGLE, IT PRINTED SOME PRETTY TALL TALES ABOUT "STORMIN' NORMAN." MY STORM-GUY. MY STORMY.
CALLED HIM A MENACE. SAID HE WAS THE "GREEN GOBLIN". WELL I'M HERE TO TELL YOU, WE'RE OFFERING A FULL RETRACTION AND OUR SINCEREST APOLOGY.
NOT JUST TO STORMY HERE, BUT TO ALL OF NEW YORK! YOU DESERVE TO KNOW WHO THE GOOD GUYS ARE, AND WHO ARE THE REAL MENACES!
WELL SAID, DB. WHICH BRINGS US TO OUR HONORED GUEST. THANKS TO HIS THUNDERBOLTS PROGRAM...
...OUR GREAT NATION CAN SLEEP EASIER UNDER THE BLANKET OF SECURITY THAT HE PROVIDES.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I GIVE TO YOU THE CROWNE FOUNDATION'S MAN OF THE YEAR, NORMAN OSBORN.
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
NORMAN S OSBORN
THANK YOU, RANDALL. BUT I'M NOT HERE FOR AN AWARD. I'M HERE FOR YOU. I'M HERE FOR NEW YORK. AND I'M NOT HERE ALONE. EVERYONE...
"...THE THUNDERBOLTS!"
WE LOVE YOU, SONGBIRD!
VENOM! OVER HERE!
T-BOLTS! YOU ROCK!
CLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAP

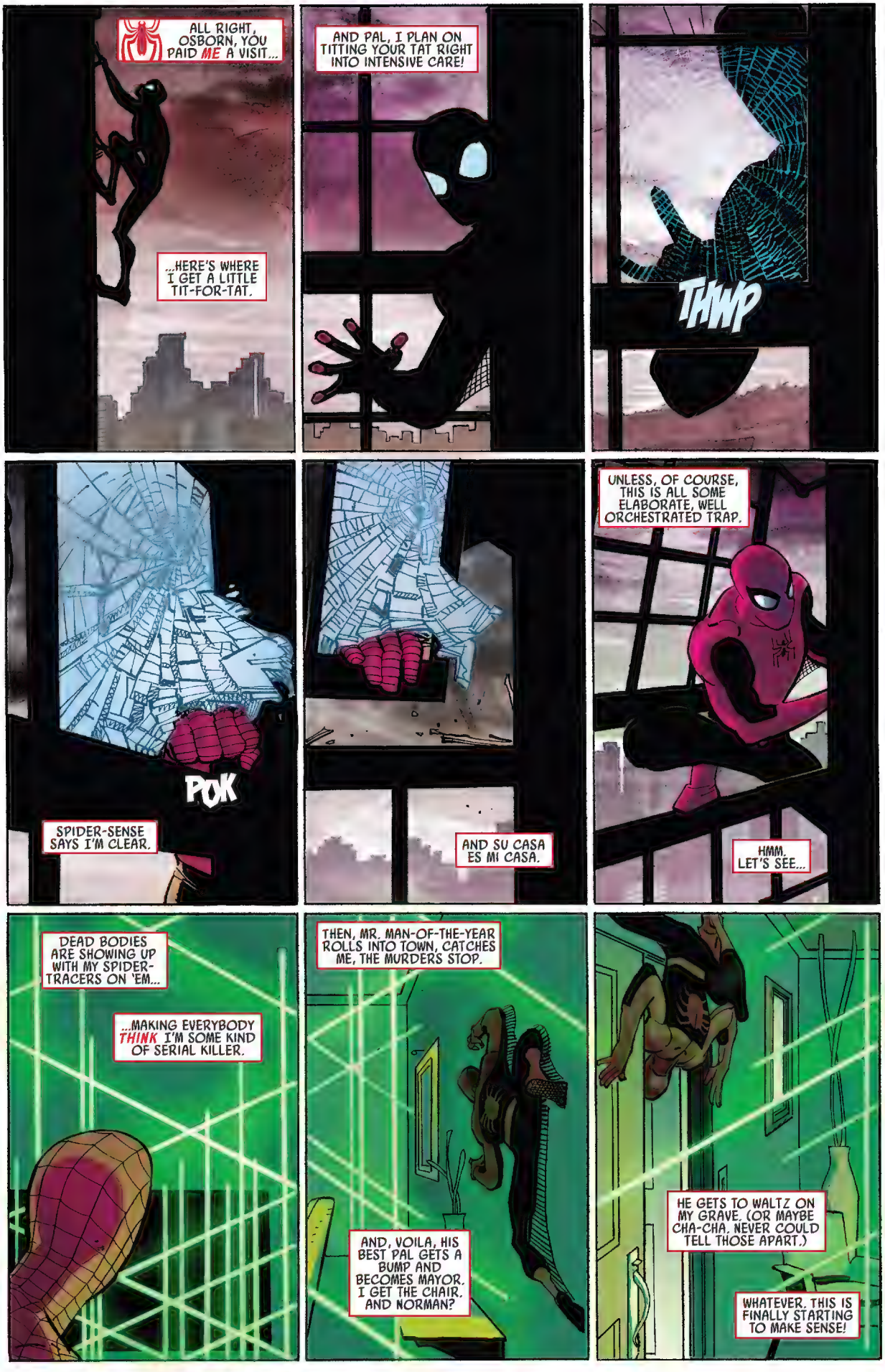
AND WE'RE HERE ON A MISSION! TO DO THE JOB THAT BILL HOLLISTER'S FRIENDS IN THE NYPD HAVE FAILED TO DO...
...TO RID THE CITY OF THAT SERIAL-KILLING CRIMINAL, SPIDER-MAN!
MY GOD, BEN, IT'S OFFICIAL. UP IS DOWN. BLACK IS WHITE. SPIDEY'S THE BAD GUY AND OSBORN'S THE HERO?!
BELIEVE ME, PETE. I KNOW.
I'M THE REPORTER WHO FILED THAT STORY BENNETT JUST SCRAPED OFF HIS SHOE. I STOOD BY IT THEN...
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
...AND I STAND BY IT NOW! WHAT DOES OSBORN THINK?
THAT HE CAN JUST WAVE A MAGIC WAND AND EVERYONE WILL FORGET WHO HE REALLY IS?
RIGHT. 'CAUSE THAT'D BE...CRAZY.
PRESS
MR. OSBORN! BEN URICH OF FRONT LINE.
WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON YOUR FRIEND RANDALL CROWNE'S INVOLVEMENT WITH ILLEGAL SWEATSHOPS IN THE CITY?
MR. OSBORN!
YES, DEAR. YOU, IN THE FRONT.
SANDY STONE FROM ENTERTAINMENT NEWS.
ARE YOU ONLY IN TOWN FOR BUSINESS? OR DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER PLANS?
WHY YES, SANDY. I'M ALSO HERE FOR FAMILY.


The Coffee Bean.
JUST OFF ASTOR PLACE.
HOW'S IT LOOK? EVERYTHING OKAY?
EVERYTHING LOOKS FINE, HARRY.
FINE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH, CARLIE. NOT FOR HIM. IT HAS TO BE PERFECT.
SWEETIE, YOU GOTTA CALM DOWN. YOUR DAD'S COMING BY FOR A VISIT...
...AND YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE IT'S THE END OF THE--
BOSS!
HE'S HERE!
FATHER! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, SIR. AS THE PROUD PROPRIETOR, LET ME WELCOME YOU TO THE COFFEE BEAN.
AND I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY NEW GIRLFRIEND, LILY HOLLISTER.
IT'S A PLEASURE TO--
YOU'RE BILL HOLLISTER'S GIRL.
I HOPE THAT'S ALL RIGHT. WITH YOU BEING A CROWNE MAN AND ALL.
I'M IN THE HABIT OF BACKING WINNERS, MS. HOLLISTER. AND FRANKLY...
....I'M SURPRISED HARRY'S SUNK SO MUCH OF HIS POCKET CHANGE INTO A CANDIDATE THAT IS SO...UNELECTABLE.
WHY DON'T I GET US SOME COFFEE?
COLBERT '08 (AND SO CAN YOU!)
SO? THIS IS WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH YOURSELF NOW? SERVING DRINKS?
ACTUALLY, IT'S MORE THAN THAT. I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU. THIS STORE IS JUST THE START.

I'VE CLOSED SOME BIG DEALS AND, WELL...WE'RE *FRANCHISING.* WHEN I'M DONE...
...THERE'LL BE *COFFEE BEANS* THROUGHOUT THE EAST COAST. I SHOULD CLEAR A *BILLION* IN THE FIRST YEAR.
HARRY! THAT'S *INCREDIBLE!* WHY DIDN'T YOU--?
LIKE I SAID, I WANTED IT TO BE A SURPRISE. FOR YOU, DAD.
WHAT? YOU THINK I HAVEN'T BEEN KEEPING TABS ON YOU? AND ALL OF YOUR LITTLE... SIDE PROJECTS.
YOU WALKED AWAY FROM OSCORP, FROM THE FAMILY BUSINESS. AND FOR *WHAT?*
TO SELL GROUND BEANS TO THE EFFETE? TO BECOME A FAILED KINGMAKER?
I-I WANTED TO SHOW YOU I COULD DO SOMETHING...ON MY OWN... THAT I...
IF ONLY YOU *WERE* ON YOUR OWN. BUT YOU'RE NOT. YOU'RE AN *OSBORN.*
AND I HAVE *NEVER* BEEN MORE ASHAMED OF THAT.
HARRY...DON'T LISTEN TO HIM. *I'M* PROUD OF YOU.
AND YOUR DAD? HE'LL COME AROUND. YOU'LL SEE. EVERYTHING'LL BE FINE.

STOP SAYING THAT!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA, YOU SPOILED LITTLE DADDY'S GIRL!
AH!
KASHH
I-I NEED--
--NEED SOME AIR.
LILY? ARE YOU...?
YEAH. I'LL BE ALL RIGHT. BUT HARRY? I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LIKE THAT.
SO... FAR FROM PERFECT.
Osborn Manor
ON COLUMBUS CIRCLE.
THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED RESIDENCE OF NORMAN OSBORN...
STATUS REPORT.
...AND CURRENT COMMAND POST FOR THE THUNDERBOLTS.
SOUND OFF.
SONGBIRD HERE...

...I'M IN A HOLDING PATTERN OVER HIS HIGHEST "TRAFFIC ZONE". BUT IF HE KNOWS WE'RE LOOKING FOR HIM, IT SEEMS POINTLESS TO--
IF YOU'D LIKE TO QUESTION MY TACTICS, MELISSA, WE CAN DO THAT LATER. IN PRIVATE.
UM...NO, SIR. I'M FINE.
THE DB
RADIOACTIVE MAN, ANYTHING YOU WISH TO ADD?
NEGATIVE. I AM CONTINUING MY SEARCH OF THIS "FOREST HILLS." THE SPIDER HAS BEEN SPOTTED HERE MANY TIMES.
I'M TRYING TO USE MY POWERS TO TRACK HIM. ARE YOU CERTAIN HIS BLOOD IS RADIOACTIVE?
DR. LU, I COULD TELL YOU WHAT IT TASTES LIKE.
WE CAN DO YOU ONE BETTER, OSBORN. WE'VE BEEN IN HISSS HEAD. IN HISSS SOUL.
WE KNOW THAT MEATBAG FROM THE INSIDE OUT. IF HE'SSS OUT THERE, WE'LL FIND HIM!
NOW THAT'S THE CAN-DO SPIRIT I LIKE.
DIRECTOR, VENOM'S NOT STICKING TO HIS GRID. HE'S ALL OVER THE PLACE.
GOOD. IT CAN'T HURT TO HAVE A WILD CARD IN THE MIX.
THEN WHAT ABOUT BULLSEYE, SIR?
I SAID "WILD". NOT "PSYCHOTIC". HE STAYS WHERE HE IS FOR NOW. WHAT NEWS ON PARKER?
WE...UH... LOST HIM, SIR.
WHAT?! THAT MAN HAS A LINE ON THE BUG. SOME CONNECTION. ONE I'VE...EXPLOITED IN THE PAST.
IF HE'S OUT THERE, I WANT TO KNOW EXACTLY WHERE HE IS!


ALL RIGHT, OSBORN, YOU PAID ME A VISIT...
...HERE'S WHERE I GET A LITTLE TIT-FOR-TAT.
AND PAL, I PLAN ON TITTING YOUR TAT RIGHT INTO INTENSIVE CARE!
THWP
POK
SPIDER-SENSE SAYS I'M CLEAR.
AND SU CASA ES MI CASA.
UNLESS, OF COURSE, THIS IS ALL SOME ELABORATE, WELL ORCHESTRATED TRAP.
HMM. LET'S SEE...
DEAD BODIES ARE SHOWING UP WITH MY SPIDER-TRACERS ON 'EM...
...MAKING EVERYBODY THINK I'M SOME KIND OF SERIAL KILLER.
THEN, MR. MAN-OF-THE-YEAR ROLLS INTO TOWN, CATCHES ME, THE MURDERS STOP.
AND, VOILA, HIS BEST PAL GETS A BUMP AND BECOMES MAYOR. I GET THE CHAIR. AND NORMAN?
HE GETS TO WALTZ ON MY GRAVE. (OR MAYBE CHA-CHA. NEVER COULD TELL THOSE APART.)
WHATEVER. THIS IS FINALLY STARTING TO MAKE SENSE!

WELL, I DON'T GET IT. WE CART 'IM ALL THE WAY FROM COLORADO...
...BUT WE KEEP HIM STRAPPED DOWN THE WHOLE TIME. WHAT'S THE POINT?
I DUNNO. LAST RESORT THING I GUESS. Y'KNOW, "BREAK OPEN IN CASE OF EMERGENCY."
WAIT! YOU GUYS HEAR SOMETHING?
NICE TRY, BULLSEYE. BUT IT'S GONNA TAKE A LOT MORE THAN THAT TO--
KTOKK
HEY! SOMEBODY GET DOWN--
-HMPPH-
THWIP
SHHH! NO TALKING. IT'S WAY PAST YOUR BEDTIME.
IN FACT, LIGHTS OUT.
PRRRT

WHAT NOW?!
WE'VE LOST POWER, SIR.
I CAN SEE THAT, YOU IDIOT!
COMMUNICATIONS TOO.
THEN GET ON A LAND LINE AND CALL IN SOME BACKUP!
I'LL GET RIGHT ON--
WAKK
FWIP
FWIP
AGENT HAWTHORN?
REYNOLDS? NAYLOR? SOUND OFF! NOW!
SOMEBODY SPEAK!
ACTUALLY, GOBBY, WHY DON'T YOU DO THE TALKING?
YOU.
WHAT? IS THIS SUPPOSED TO INTIMIDATE ME?
PLEASE. WE'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE. AND I KNOW YOU TOO WELL.

WRONG, GOBLIN. TIMES HAVE CHANGED. AND THIS TIME, YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO I AM.
AND I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU.
EVERY CRIME. EVERY SECRET. EVERY ONE OF YOUR VICTIMS. EVERY SINGLE ONE.
AND I CAN GET TO YOU WHENEVER I WANT.
FINE. TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT.
WHAT?
OH, AND YOU'RE RIGHT, BUG. TIMES HAVE CHANGED.
I'M NOT JUST NORMAN OSBORN ANYMORE. I'M THE LAW!
SLAM
GENTLEMEN, BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME BY THE CITY, STATE, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS...
...BRING ME SPIDER-MAN: DEAD OR ALIVE!

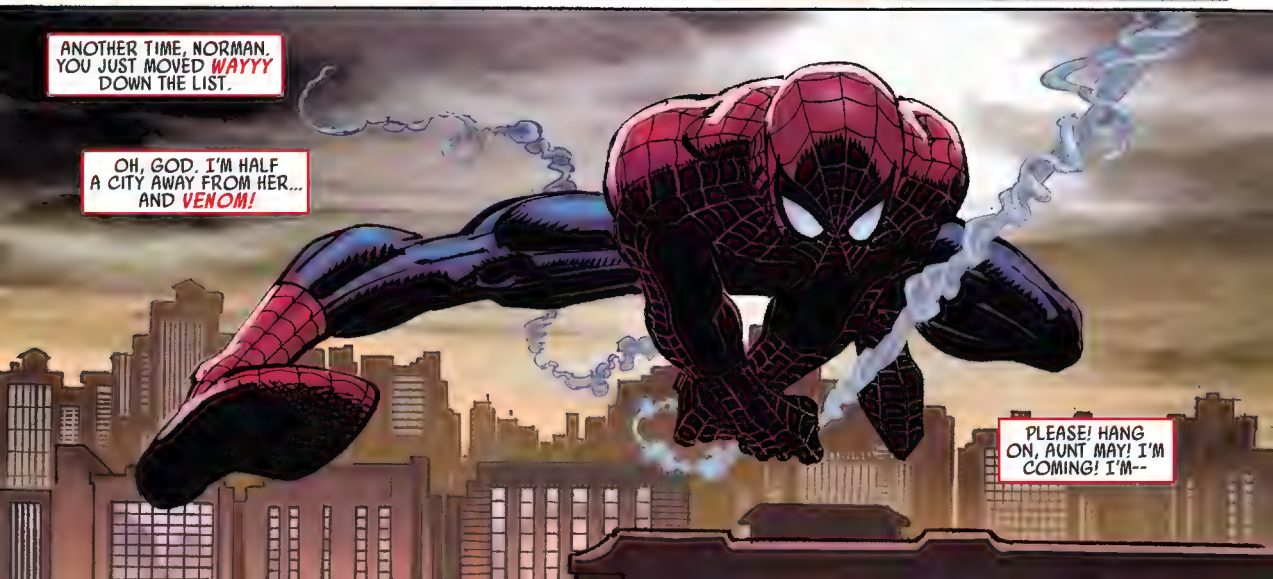
HEY! WHAT'S WITH THE--
THE FLOOR!
HE COATED THE WHOLE THING WITH HIS WEBS!
THAT'S JUST ME, TRYING TO HELP OUT.
SEE, THIS'S THE PROBLEM WITH THESE HASTILY BUILT BASES...
KOK
KRAK
PANG
TOK
...SHODDY WORKMANSHIP, LOTS A' PIECES LYING AROUND...
...SOMEBODY COULD GET HURT.
T-BOLTS! I'M ON EMERGENCY BACKUP SYSTEMS, DO YOU COPY?!
SONGBIRD. I COPY.
THIS IS CHEN, I COPY.
THEN FALL BACK TO BASE, NOW! DO YOU--WAIT? WHERE'S GARGAN?!
MAC CAN'T COME TO THE PHONE NOW. WE'RE BUSY!

WHAT? I GAVE YOU AN ORDER, GARGAN!
NO! WE'VE FOUND HIM! OUR OLD HOST, HE'SSS NEAR! WE CAN FEEL HIM!
IMPOSSIBLE! HE'S RIGHT--
HE'SSS RIGHT IN FRONT OF USSS! THE SIGN OUTSIDE SAYSSS FEAST.
AND THAT'SSS JUST WHAT WE'LL DO! FEAST ON HISSS BRAINSSS! VENOM OUT!

THE F.E.A.S.T. CENTER?! OH, NO! AUNT MAY!
GARGAN! I'M IN CHARGE!

GET BACK HERE SO WE CAN KILL--

--SPIDER-MAN?! THAT'S RIGHT. SCURRY AWAY, LITTLE SPIDER.
THE MEN YOU ATTACKED TONIGHT WEREN'T CROOKS OR SOME VILLAIN'S HENCHMEN. YOU ASSAULTED FEDERAL OFFICERS!
YOU'RE AN ENEMY OF THE STATE! I'LL SEE YOU FRY FOR IT! AND BEST OF ALL, I'LL PULL THE SWITCH MYSELF!


ANOTHER TIME, NORMAN. YOU JUST MOVED WAYYY DOWN THE LIST.
OH, GOD. I'M HALF A CITY AWAY FROM HER... AND VENOM!
PLEASE! HANG ON, AUNT MAY! I'M COMING! I'M--

SSSSPIDER-MAN!
I KNOW YOU'RE IN HERE. COME OUT, COME OUT WHEREVER YOU ARE.
OHMIGOD!
WHAT IS THAT?!
OUTTA THE WAY!
MR. LI! WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!
EVERYONE, PLEASE STAY CALM. THAT'S- THAT'S ONE OF THE THUNDERBOLTS.
HE'S A LICENSED HERO. WE'RE ALL OKAY. JUST STAND BACK. GIVE HIM ROOM.
YESSS. YOU HEARD THE MAN. I'M ONE OF THE GOOD GUYSSS.
WHO WANTSSS AN AUTOGRAPH? WHO WANTSSS A PICTURE? WHO WANTSSS A HUG?!
HOW ABOUT YOU, SSSPIDEY?!
I KNOW YOU'RE UNDER THERE! I CAN FEEL YOU CURLING UP LIKE A PILL BUG! SQUIRMING FOR YOUR LIFE!
KRAKK

QUIT HIDING YOU LITTLE--
--BROCK?!
AHH!
OOPSSS! WRONG HOST!
WELL WHADDYA KNOW? LI'L EDDIE BROCK!
NO! KEEP THAT THING AWAY FROM ME!
WHAT'SSS THE MATTER, EDDIE? NOTHING NICE TO SAY TO THE EX? HA HA HA!
HEY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
NO! NOT AGAIN!! I'M FREE...
STOP IT! GET OFF OF HIM! YOU'RE MINE NOW!
I PURGED YOU!

I CAST YOU OUT!
I--AHH! WHAT IS THAT?!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!
YARGH! IT-IT BURNSSS! HOW ARE YOU HURTING USSS?!
ITSSS
WE ARE VENOM! YOU CAN'T-CAN'T-
KTAMM
YOU ARE THE THING THAT LED ME INTO DARKNESS!
YOU'RE A POISON! A DISEASE! AND I-I'M THE CURE!
EDDIE?
WHAT ARE YOU?

To Be Continued...

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #570

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #570 APES VARIANT BY MIKE MCKONE

IT'S ALL ABOUT PRIORITIES.
EVERY COP, FED, AND HERO HUNTER IN THE CITY'S GUNNING FOR ME. AND HERE I AM, OUT IN THE OPEN.
DON'T CARE.
I'M OFF TO FIGHT ONE OF MY BIGGEST BADS...
...AND I'M BLOWING MY WAD GETTING THERE. SWINGING AT TOP SPEED, RIPPING MY ARMS OUT OF THEIR SOCKETS.
NOT AN ISSUE.
ONLY TWO THINGS MATTER: VENOM, THAT INSANE-O, BRAIN-EATING MONSTER IS AT THE F.E.A.S.T. SHELTER.
AND SO IS MY AUNT MAY! C'MON! ALMOST THERE!
I PRAY I CAN MAKE IT BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS. AND I DO MEAN "PRAY," BECAUSE THIS ONE...

...IS GONNA TAKE A MIRACLE.

YOU'RE A BLIGHT, VENOM! A PLAGUE ON HUMANITY! AND I SWEAR...

...I'LL RID THE WORLD OF YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL!

ARGHH!

The F.E.A.S.T. Homeless Shelter. ON AVENUE A.

NEW WAYS TO DIE PART THREE

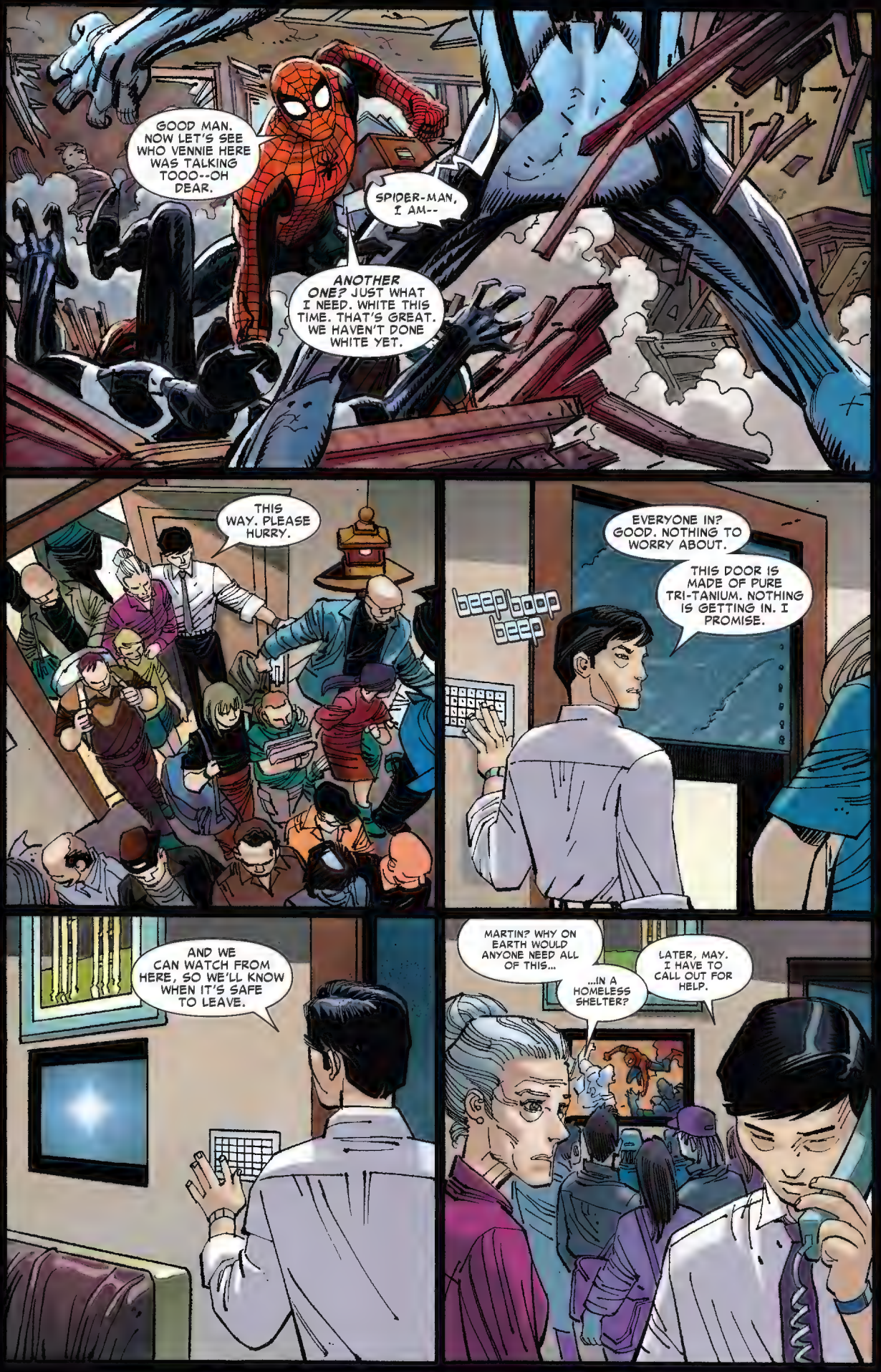
THE KILLER CUBE

DAN SLOTT WRITER	JOHN ROMITA JR. PENCILS	KLAUS JANSON INKS	DEAN WHITE COLORS	VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS	TOM BRENNAN ASST. EDITOR	STEPHEN WACKER EDITOR	TOM BREVOORT EXECUTIVE EDITOR	JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF	DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, SLOTT & WELLS SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

KREEEEEK
OH MY! TYLER! LOOK OUT!
I'VE GOT YOU!
AH!
MRS. PARKER! ARE YOU--
EDWARD BROCK! OF ALL THE THOUGHTLESS...
YOU'RE GOING TO GET SOMEONE KILLED! IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!
I-I'M SORRY. I WASN'T...
PAYING ATTENTION? NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON USSS, WHITEY!
WHAM
YOU DON'T SAY...

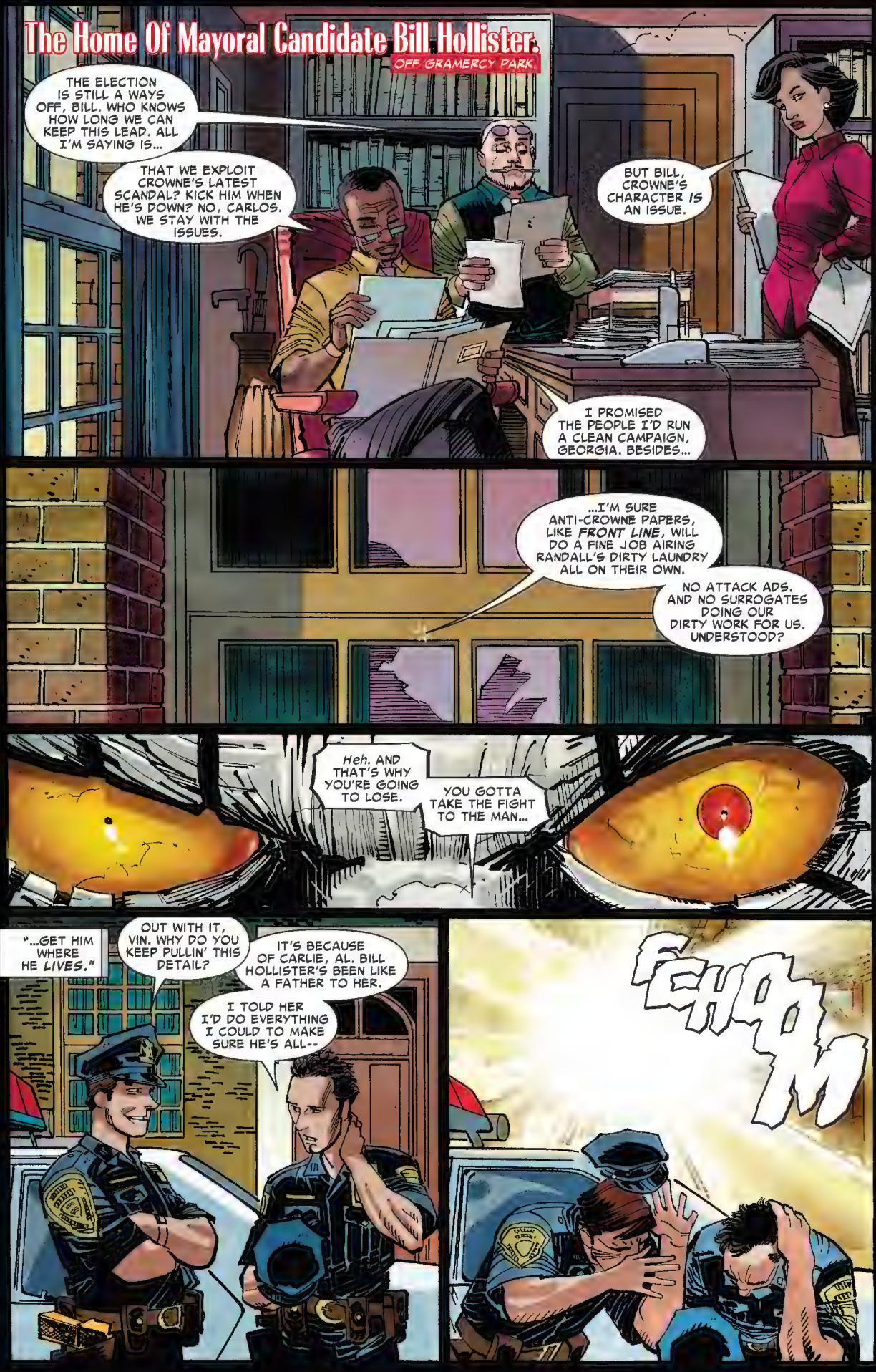
THANKS FOR THE TIP, MAC!
OH, AND B.T.W., THANKS FOR LEAVING THE DOOR OPEN.
SPIDER-MA-AKK!
FWAK
WELL, MORE LIKE LEAVING THE WALL OPEN.
SO NOT COOL. YOU DO UNDERSTAND THIS'S A SHELTER, RIGHT? THAT MEANS A ROOF AND FOUR WALLS.
THAT'S GENERALLY HOW PEOPLE LIKE IT. SPEAKING OF WHICH...
RKGH
MR. LI!
THINK YOU CAN GET EVERYONE OUTTA HERE? THESE DUSTUPS TEND TO GET A WEE BIT MESSY.
OF--OF COURSE. MAY! EVERYONE! FOLLOW ME!


GOOD MAN. NOW LET'S SEE WHO VENNIE HERE WAS TALKING TOOO--OH DEAR.
SPIDER-MAN, I AM--
ANOTHER ONE? JUST WHAT I NEED. WHITE THIS TIME. THAT'S GREAT. WE HAVEN'T DONE WHITE YET.
THIS WAY. PLEASE HURRY.
EVERYONE IN? GOOD. NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
THIS DOOR IS MADE OF PURE TRI-TANIUM. NOTHING IS GETTING IN. I PROMISE.
beep boop beep
AND WE CAN WATCH FROM HERE, SO WE'LL KNOW WHEN IT'S SAFE TO LEAVE.
MARTIN? WHY ON EARTH WOULD ANYONE NEED ALL OF THIS...
...IN A HOMELESS SHELTER?
LATER, MAY. I HAVE TO CALL OUT FOR HELP.

SKRSH
AH! GET OFF OF ME! BOTH OF YOU...
PRANG
...JUST BACK OFF OF--
NO! STOP INTERFERING!
YESSS! THISSS ISSS BETWEEN ME AND BROCK!
WHA?
EDDIE? IS THAT--
BEAT IT!
LEAVE US!

OW!
SLOPPY, PARKER. YOU'D THINK BY NOW YOU WOULD'VE LEARNED...
...SYMBIOTES DON'T SET OFF YOUR SPIDER-SE--
WAK
UNH...
TUD
HA! DID YOU--
--SEE THAT?!
...
RWARR!
GRAHH!!
YES, CROWNE. I'M EN ROUTE NOW.
The Zeus.
THE THUNDERBOLTS' MOBILE COMMAND SHIP

VENOM IS ON SITE. GROUND TROOPS ARE ALREADY CORDONING OFF THE AREA.
SONGBIRD AND RADIOACTIVE MAN WILL RENDEZVOUS WITH US THERE. AND, IF NECESSARY...
...I HAVE AN "ACE IN THE HOLE." IT WON'T BE LONG NOW. AND BY THE NEXT NEWS CYCLE...
=MMMPH=
...THERE'LL BE A NICE CLIP OF THE TWO OF US PUTTING THE SPIDER-TRACER KILLER BEHIND BARS.
WHAT? YES, I STILL PLAN ON DOING THAT TO HIM. NO, OUR GOVERNMENT CLEARLY SAYS IT'S NOT TORTURE.
WHATEVER. OSBORN OUT.
=MNEFFFN!=
BULLSEYE, STOP MUMBLING. YOU'VE GOT AT LEAST HALF AN HOUR BEFORE THAT WEBBING DISSOLVES.
AND ANOTHER TWENTY MINUTES BEFORE YOU CAN GO SWIMMING.
MYLLEFFNN KLLHMM!
OH, LIGHTEN UP. WE'RE ABOUT TO CAPTURE SPIDER-MAN.
CHRISTMAS JUST CAME EARLY.
HO. HO. HO.


The Home Of Mayoral Candidate Bill Hollister.
OFF GRAMERCY PARK.
THE ELECTION IS STILL A WAYS OFF, BILL. WHO KNOWS HOW LONG WE CAN KEEP THIS LEAD. ALL I'M SAYING IS...
THAT WE EXPLOIT CROWNE'S LATEST SCANDAL? KICK HIM WHEN HE'S DOWN? NO, CARLOS. WE STAY WITH THE ISSUES.
BUT BILL, CROWNE'S CHARACTER *IS* AN ISSUE.
I PROMISED THE PEOPLE I'D RUN A CLEAN CAMPAIGN, GEORGIA. BESIDES...
...I'M SURE ANTI-CROWNE PAPERS, LIKE ***FRONT LINE***, WILL DO A FINE JOB AIRING RANDALL'S DIRTY LAUNDRY ALL ON THEIR OWN.
NO ATTACK ADS. AND NO SURROGATES DOING OUR DIRTY WORK FOR US. UNDERSTOOD?
Heh. AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE.
YOU GOTTA TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE MAN...
"...GET HIM WHERE HE *LIVES.*"
OUT WITH IT, VIN. WHY DO YOU KEEP PULLIN' THIS DETAIL?
IT'S BECAUSE OF CARLIE, AL. BILL HOLLISTER'S BEEN LIKE A FATHER TO HER.
I TOLD HER I'D DO EVERYTHING I COULD TO MAKE SURE HE'S ALL--
FEHAM

KNOCK KNOCK! GUESS WHO, BILLY-BOY!
IT'S YOUR OLD PAL, MENACE! AND I'VE GOT ANOTHER IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO GIVE YOU.
THIS ELECTION IS A ONE-MAN RACE. GOT IT?
THAT MEANS ONLY ONE GUY FINISHES.
AND BILL? MY LI'L BILLY-BOY? MY BILLY...
...THAT GUY AIN'T GONNA BE YOU!

BILLY?
UNCONSCIOUS. THEY'RE ALL UNCONSCIOUS. HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO DO THIS IF NO ONE'S AROUND TO--
C'MON, SNAP OUT OF IT ALREADY. YOU HAVE TO WORK WITH ME HERE, OKAY?
YOU KNOW I AM DOING ALL OF THIS FOR YOUR BENE--
FREEZE!
PUT HIM DOWN AND PARK THAT THING NOW!
SLOWLY!
NO!
OOMPH!
HEY!
YOU'RE A LUCKY MAN, HOLLISTER!
THANKS TO THESE TWO, YOU'LL LIVE. TODAY!
BANG
PTANG
PANG
"YOW! GONNA BE FEELING THAT FOR A WHILE..."

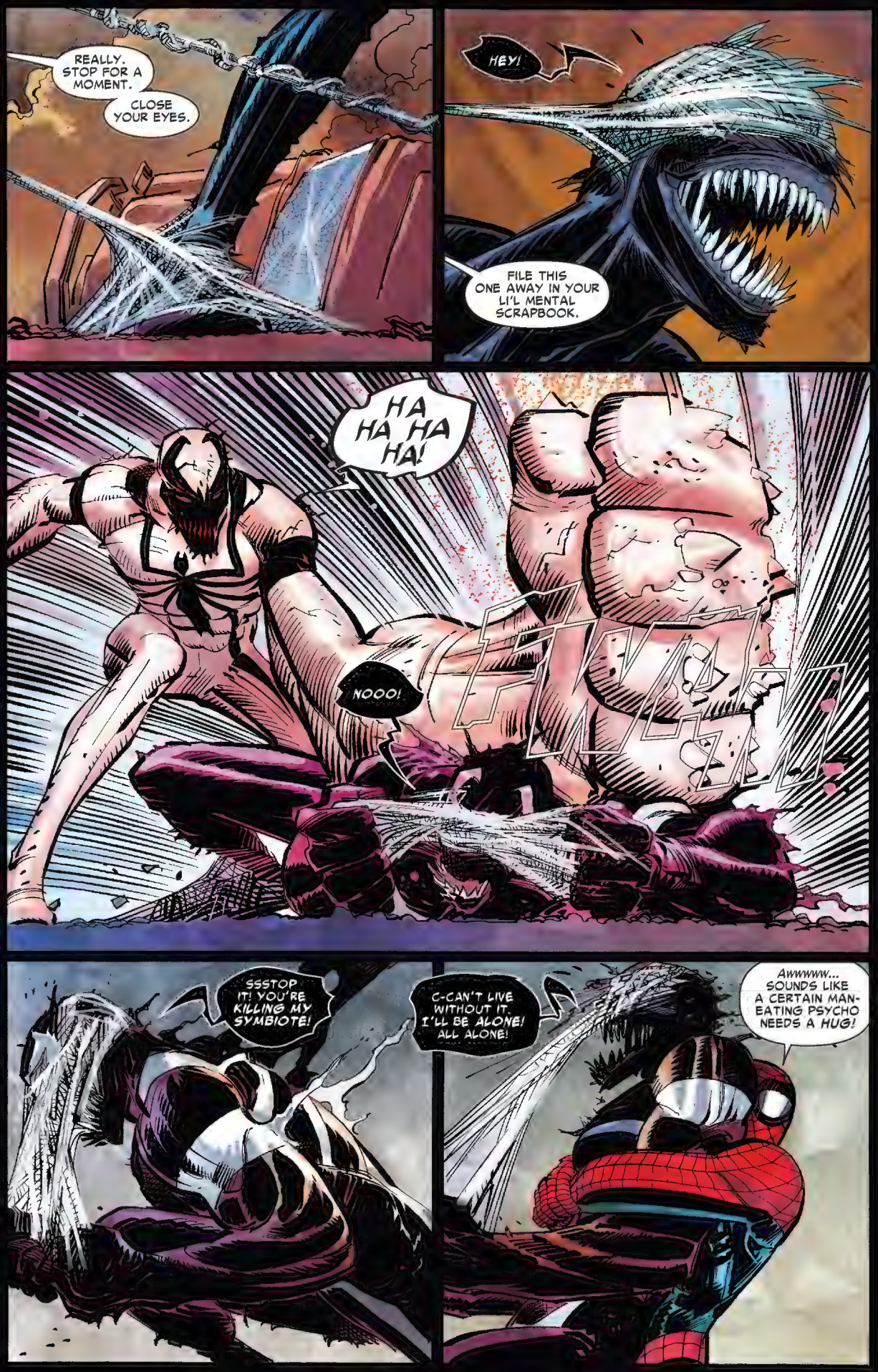
...AND I AM SO NOT LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING MIXED UP IN THAT MESS AGAIN.
BUT A SPIDER-MAN'S GOTTA DO WHAT A SPIDER-MAN'S GOTTA DO.
STILL, BEFORE I REJOIN SALT AND PEPPER DOWN THERE...
...AND SINCE THE CROWD'S IN THE CLEAR...
...THIS'D PROBABLY BE A GOOD TIME TO SET UP YE OLDE SPIDEY MONEY-MAKER. SMILE!
YOU'RE AN IDIOT, GARGAN! THAT SUIT IS KILLING YOU. YOU JUST DON'T KNOW IT YET.
I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOU!
W-W-WORRY ABOUT SSSAVING YOURSELF!
ARRGH!
Y-Y-YOUR TOUCH!!
IT'S EATING USSS ALIVE!
YOU-YOU MONSTER! SSSTAY AWAY FROM ME!

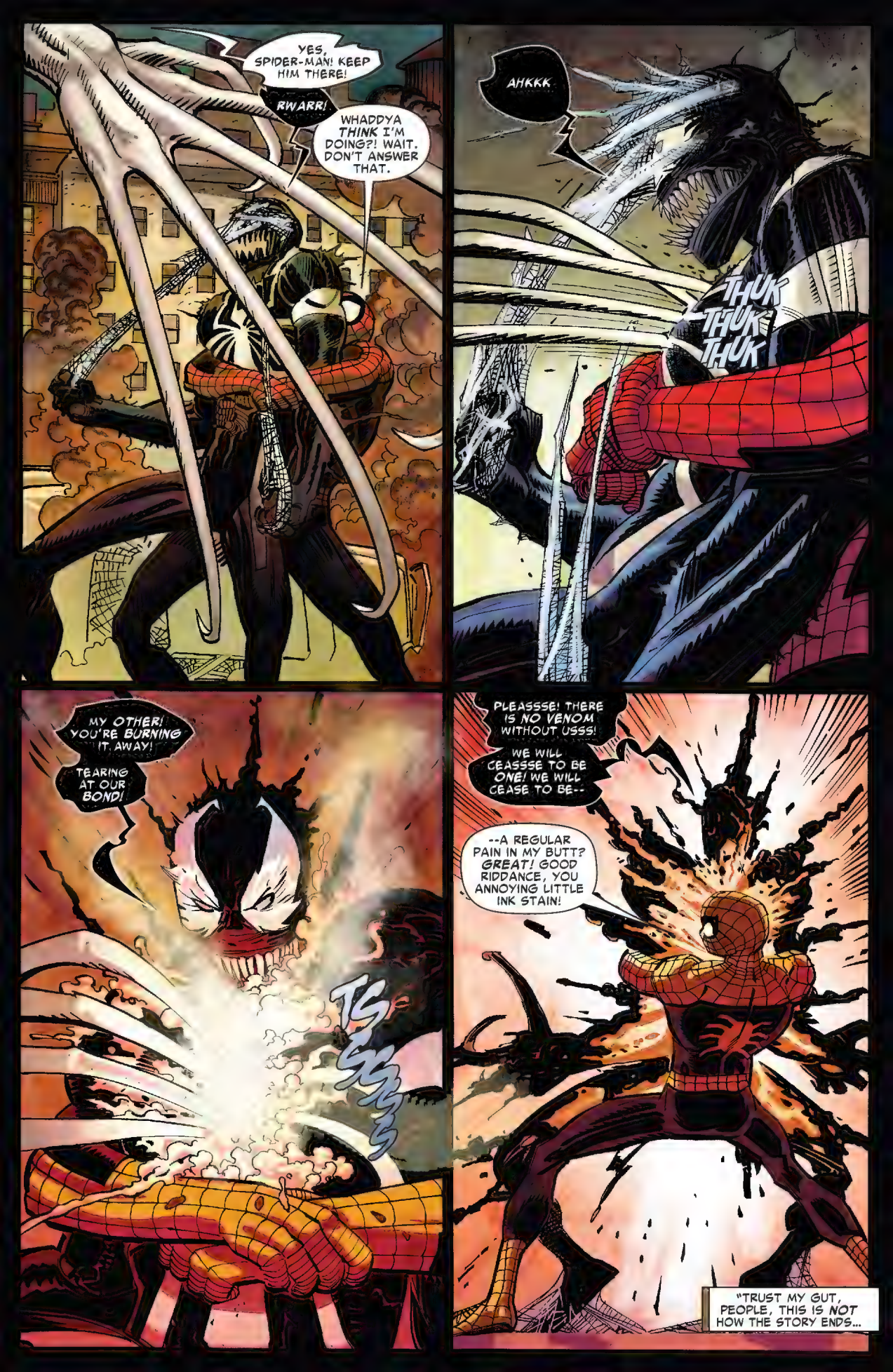
YOU SAID "ME," GARGAN.
I-I-I MEANT USSS!
KEEP AWAY FROM USSS!
YES! IT'S WORKING! CAN YOU FEEL IT? THAT THING...
...THAT CANCER INSIDE YOU, IT'S DYING.
SHRAK
IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, YOU'LL SEE. I CAN HEAL YOU! I CAN MAKE YOU BETTER!
I CAN MAKE EVERYONE--
NO!
WHAT?!
THAT OLD MAN! WHAT HAVE I DONE?!

GNUH!
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU? TUESDAY'S ALTERNATE SIDE OF THE STREET PARKING. BAD EDDIE!
HE--HE WAS AN INNOCENT. AND YOU SAVED HIM.
YEAH. I TEND TO DO THAT. A LOT.
THANKS FOR FINALLY NOTICING.
OKAY, THEN. THAT WAS ME. POPPING IN FOR THE CAR-THING.
YOU TWO CAN GO BACK TO, UH, HITTING EACH OTHER.
AW NERTZ.

OSBORN, THIS IS SONGBIRD. CHEN AND I ARE APPROACHING THE AREA.
WHICH ATTACK FORMATION SHOULD WE USE WHEN WE FLY IN?
NONE. HANG BACK AND SECURE THE PERIMETER.
SIR? ARE YOU OUTSIDE?
YES, MS. GOLD. LIKE ALL GOOD GENERALS, I'M GETTING A LAY OF THE LAND. VIEWING THE BATTLEFIELD.
OOOKAY. I WANT TO MAKE THIS CLEAR, I'M NOT QUESTIONING YOU...
...I'M ASKING FOR CONFIRMATION. YOU DO NOT WANT US TO ENGAGE.
CORRECT. THE BUG IS GOOD WITH GROUPS. HE ALWAYS FINDS A WAY TO TURN THEIR WEAKNESSES AGAINST EACH OTHER.
BEST TO ATTACK HIM ONE AT A TIME AND WEAR HIM DOWN.
REALLY? HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
EXPERIENCE, MS. GOLD. NOW SHUT UP AND LEARN.
WELL?! MOVE!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO MOVE! YOU MOVE!
HEY, I'LL MAKE THE FIRST MOVE. TO HOBOKEN. HOW'S THAT?

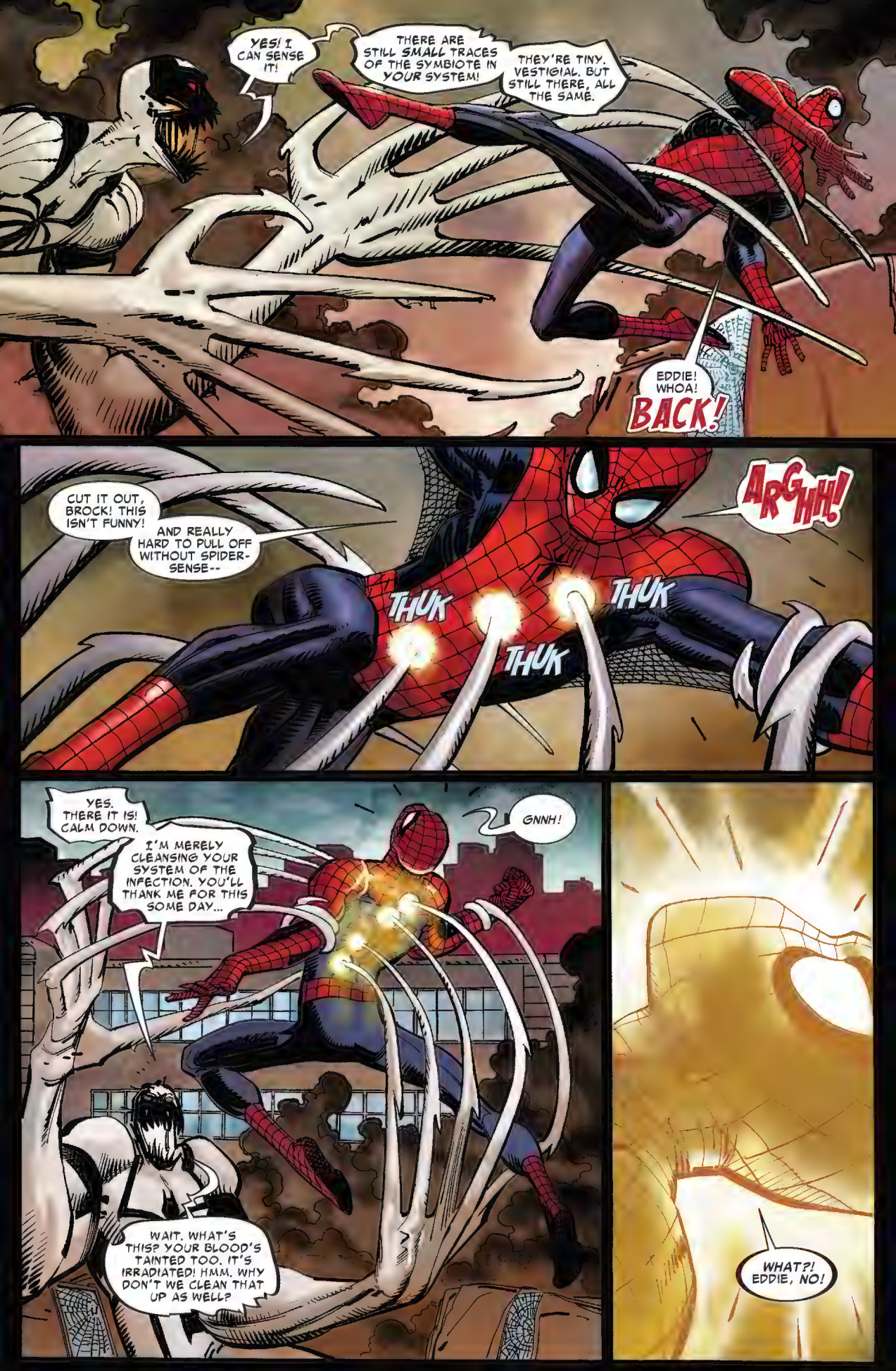
Y'KNOW, THIS REMINDS ME OF A JOKE. WHAT'S BLACK AND WHITE AND RED ALL OVER?
CUTE, SSSPIDER-MAN. SO CUTE WE COULD EAT YOU UP!
TURN YOUR BACK ON ME, GARGAN, AND YOUR OTHER DIES.
GOOD TO KNOW.
HEY, EDDIE. REMEMBER HOW I SAVED THAT GUY BACK THERE?
THE INNOCENT MAN.
SO...YOU HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT ME?
YES.
GOOD. SO YOU WANNA GET MAC?
DEAL!
NO FAIR!
OH, MAN! THAT IS ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE TREASURES
WHEN ONE OF THE BAD GUYS SAYS "NO FAIR."
SERIOUSLY, MAC, DON'T CHANGE. STAY JUST THE WAY YOU ARE.
THWIP
THWIP


REALLY. STOP FOR A MOMENT.
CLOSE YOUR EYES.
HEY!
FILE THIS ONE AWAY IN YOUR LI'L MENTAL SCRAPBOOK.
HA HA HA HA!
NOOO!
SSSTOP IT! YOU'RE KILLING MY SYMBIOTE!
C-CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT IT. I'LL BE ALONE! ALL ALONE!
Awwwww... SOUNDS LIKE A CERTAIN MAN-EATING PSYCHO NEEDS A HUG!


YES, SPIDER-MAN! KEEP HIM THERE!
RWARR!
WHADDYA THINK I'M DOING?! WAIT. DON'T ANSWER THAT.
AHKKK
THUK THUK THUK
MY OTHER! YOU'RE BURNING IT AWAY!
TEARING AT OUR BOND!
TSSSSS
PLEASSSE! THERE IS NO VENOM WITHOUT USSS!
WE WILL CEASSSE TO BE ONE! WE WILL CEASE TO BE--
--A REGULAR PAIN IN MY BUTT? GREAT! GOOD RIDDANCE, YOU ANNOYING LITTLE INK STAIN!
"TRUST MY GUT, PEOPLE, THIS IS NOT HOW THE STORY ENDS...

The Office of Front Line.
...THERE'S MORE TO THIS SWEATSHOP SCANDAL THAN WHAT WE'VE GOT. IF THERE WASN'T...
...CROWNE WOULDN'T BE PULLING THIS BLATANT THUNDERBOLTS P.R. STUNT TO DRAW EVERYONE'S ATTENTION.
CHIEF, ABOUT THAT...REPORTS ARE COMING IN THAT THE THUNDERBOLTS ARE FIGHTING SPIDER-MAN RIGHT NOW, DOWN ON AVENUE A...
GREAT. I'M SURE THE DB HAS THAT COVERED. ALONG WITH SONGBIRD'S NEW WEIGHT-LOSS DIET.
AT FRONT LINE WE'LL DEAL WITH THE ACTUAL NEWS. SALLY, YOU SAID YOUR SOURCE HELPED YOU LINK THE SWEATSHOP PROPERTY TO CROWNE INDUSTRIES.
ANY CHANCE I COULD PUMP THEM FOR SOME MORE INFORMATION.
I'LL SEE IF I CAN ARRANGE YOU A SITDOWN WITH "HIM."
THAT'S A START. NEXT, THESE ARE SOME OF THE PICTURES PETER PARKER TOOK OF THE WORKERS AS THEY RAN OFF. PASS THESE AROUND.
THEY'RE ASIAN. POSSIBLY ILLEGAL. AND LOOK...
...ALL OF THEM HAVE THESE STRANGE SETS OF LESIONS. LETS HAVE SOME DOCTORS LOOK THESE OVER.
AND IT WOULDN'T HURT TO GET PARKER'S TAKE ON THESE SHOTS. HE WAS THERE...
...MAYBE HE COULD SHED SOME LIGHT ON THESE. ANYONE KNOW WHERE HE IS? ANYONE?
SIGH AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU PEOPLE WERE REPORTERS.
THERE'S A SPIDER-MAN FIGHT GOING ON DOWNTOWN. WHERE DO YOU THINK PETE IS?

"TAKING PICTURES. WHERE ELSE?"
KLIK WHRR KLIK
YOU ARE ALMOST CURED, MY FRIEND.
SOON YOUR BODY WILL BE FREE OF THIS EVIL PARASITE, AND YOU CAN RETURN TO YOUR NORMAL LIFE.
I'LL KILL YOU FOR THIS. I SWEAR I'LL KILL YOU...
SO HE'LL JUST BE MAC GARGAN AGAIN? SWELL. HE WAS A JERK THEN, TOO.
WE'LL SEE...
I LIKE TO BELIEVE THAT BEFORE I CAME ACROSS THAT SYMBIOTE, I WAS A GOOD MAN. AND YOU...
ME WHAT? EDDIE...
STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE I'M TURNING INTO A BIG CARTOON HAM.
ALL MY PROBLEMS WITH YOU HAPPENED AFTER YOU WERE INFECTED BY IT, TOO...
WHAT IF...?


YES! I CAN SENSE IT!
THERE ARE STILL SMALL TRACES OF THE SYMBIOTE IN YOUR SYSTEM!
THEY'RE TINY. VESTIGIAL. BUT STILL THERE, ALL THE SAME.
EDDIE! WHOA!
BACK!
CUT IT OUT, BROCK! THIS ISN'T FUNNY!
AND REALLY HARD TO PULL OFF WITHOUT SPIDER-SENSE--
THUK
THUK
THUK
ARGHHH!
YES. THERE IT IS! CALM DOWN.
I'M MERELY CLEANSING YOUR SYSTEM OF THE INFECTION. YOU'LL THANK ME FOR THIS SOME DAY...
GNNH!
WAIT. WHAT'S THIS? YOUR BLOOD'S TAINTED TOO. IT'S IRRADIATED! HMM. WHY DON'T WE CLEAN THAT UP AS WELL?
WHAT?! EDDIE, NO!

WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING, YOU HAVE TO STOP IT, BROCK!
BROCK!!
LIKE I SAID, IT DOESN'T HURT TO HAVE A WILD CARD IN THE MIX.
WHAT WAS THAT, MR. OSBORN?
NOTHING, DR. CHEN. JUST MAKING AN OBSERVATION.
SONGBIRD AND I ARE AWAITING ORDERS. SHOULD WE MOVE IN?
IN A MINUTE. THERE'S STILL A RANDOM ELEMENT AT WORK HERE...
...AND I'D LIKE TO SEE HOW IT PLAYS OUT.
A RANDOM ELEMENT?
YOU'RE A MAN OF SCIENCE, CHEN. YOU KNOW HOW THESE THINGS ARE.
THAT ODD VARIABLE THAT CREEPS INTO AN EQUATION WHEN YOU LEAST--
OSBORN!
AH. CASE IN POINT.

CUTE...
...AND WHOSE LITTLE BOY ARE YOU?
To Be Continued...

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #571

HEART'S RACING. CAN FEEL...BLOOD!

MY BLOOD!

RADIOACTIVE SPIDER-BLOOD! HE'S *CLEANSING* IT!

AHH!

STOP STRUGGLING, SPIDER-MAN.

KLIK

KLIK

KLIK

NO! THAT'S WHERE MY *POWERS* COME FROM!

HANDS OFF, BROCK!

TAKE IT EASY, FRIEND. THIS WILL ALL BE OVER SOON.

THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF! IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING--*AND FAST*--

--YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO BE *OVER?* MY DAYS AS SPIDER-MAN!

NEW WAYS TO DIE PART FOUR
OPPOSITES ATTACK

DAN SLOTT WRITER | JOHN ROMITA JR. PENCILS | KLAUS JANSON INKS | DEAN WHITE COLORS | VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS

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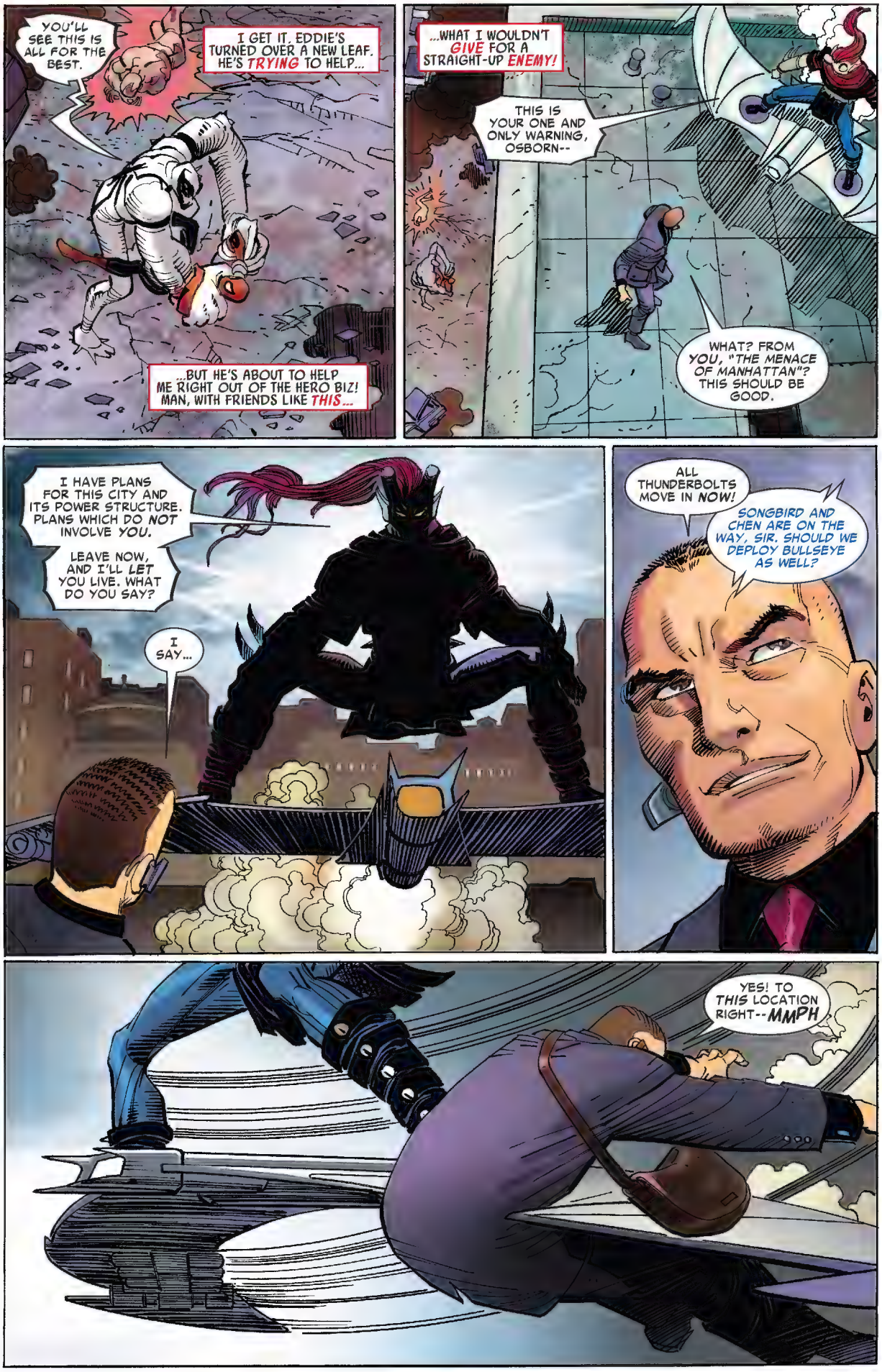
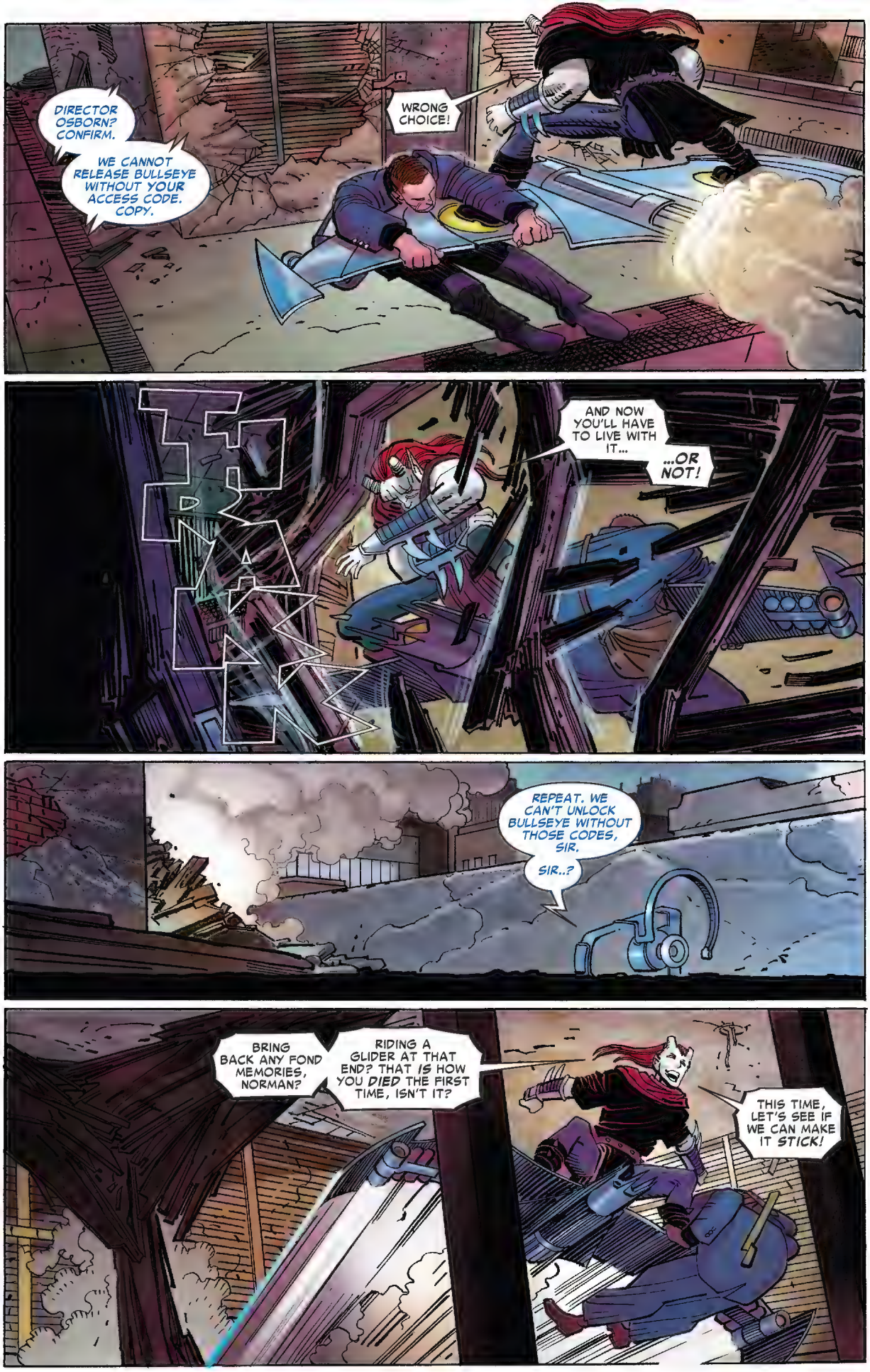
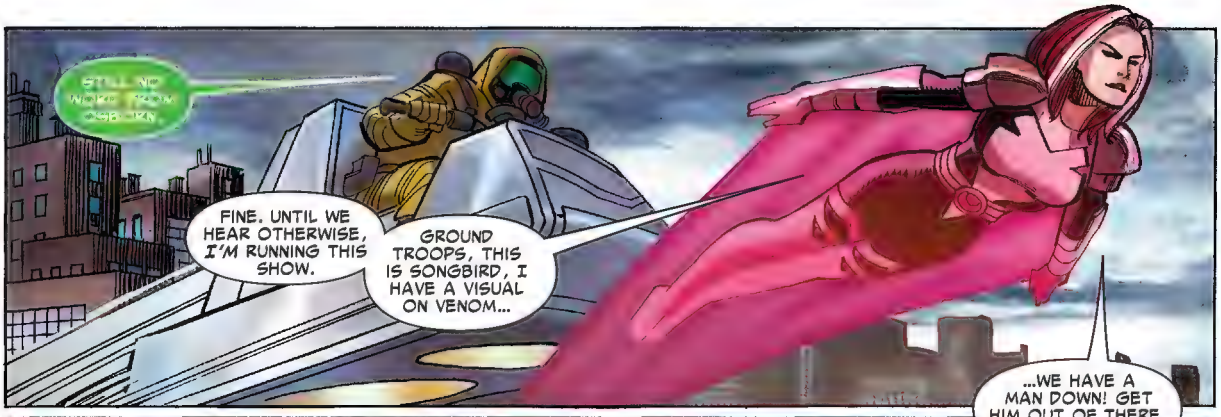
GALE, GUGGENHEIM, SLOTT & WELLS SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

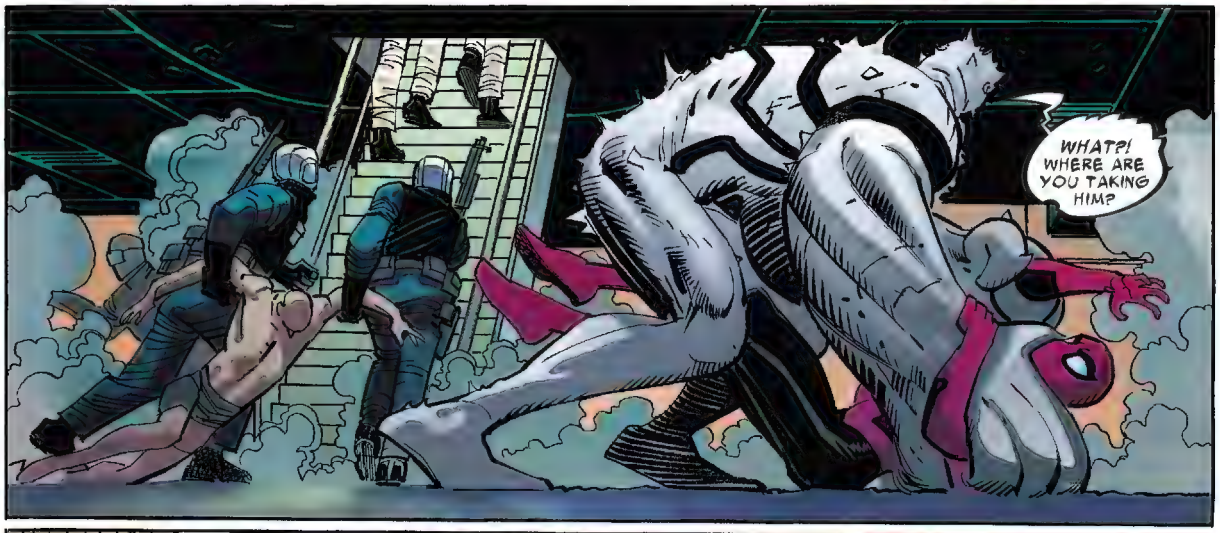

YOU'LL SEE THIS IS ALL FOR THE BEST.
I GET IT. EDDIE'S TURNED OVER A NEW LEAF. HE'S TRYING TO HELP...
...BUT HE'S ABOUT TO HELP ME RIGHT OUT OF THE HERO BIZ! MAN, WITH FRIENDS LIKE THIS...
...WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR A STRAIGHT-UP ENEMY!
THIS IS YOUR ONE AND ONLY WARNING, OSBORN--
WHAT? FROM YOU, "THE MENACE OF MANHATTAN"? THIS SHOULD BE GOOD.
I HAVE PLANS FOR THIS CITY AND ITS POWER STRUCTURE. PLANS WHICH DO NOT INVOLVE YOU.
LEAVE NOW, AND I'LL LET YOU LIVE. WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I SAY...
ALL THUNDERBOLTS MOVE IN NOW!
SONGBIRD AND CHEN ARE ON THE WAY, SIR. SHOULD WE DEPLOY BULLSEYE AS WELL?
YES! TO THIS LOCATION RIGHT--MMPH


DIRECTOR OSBORN? CONFIRM.
WE CANNOT RELEASE BULLSEYE WITHOUT YOUR ACCESS CODE. COPY.
WRONG CHOICE!
AND NOW YOU'LL HAVE TO LIVE WITH IT...
...OR NOT!
REPEAT. WE CAN'T UNLOCK BULLSEYE WITHOUT THOSE CODES, SIR.
SIR..?
BRING BACK ANY FOND MEMORIES, NORMAN?
RIDING A GLIDER AT THAT END? THAT *IS* HOW YOU *DIED* THE FIRST TIME, ISN'T IT?
THIS TIME, LET'S SEE IF WE CAN MAKE IT *STICK!*

OF ALL THE ARROGANT--
THERE IS NO WAY A PRETENDER LIKE YOU COULD TAKE MY LIFE.
YOU DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES.
REALLY, OLD MAN? LOOK AT ME!
I HAVE THE SKILL, THE EQUIPMENT, THE HIGH GROUND--
YES. HIGH AND AWAY.
FAR ENOUGH FOR ME TO DO THIS...
GLIDER OVERRIDE: SIGMA DELTA 86. EXECUTE!
MAYBE NEXT TIME YOU'LL ASK...
"...BEFORE YOU BORROW THE KEYS TO THE CAR."
KLOOV
GYAHH!

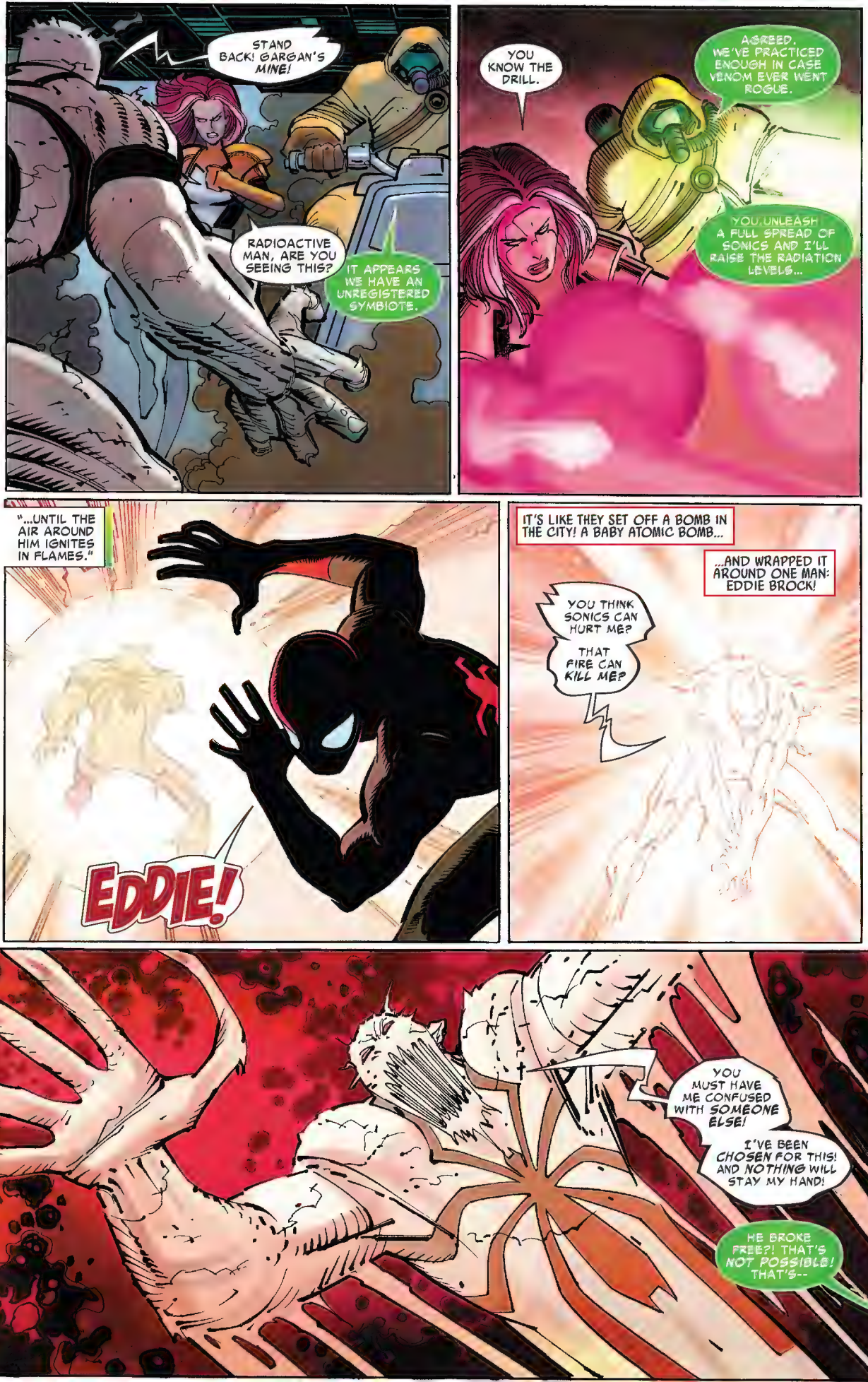

STILL NO WORD FROM OSBORN.
FINE. UNTIL WE HEAR OTHERWISE, I'M RUNNING THIS SHOW.
GROUND TROOPS, THIS IS SONGBIRD, I HAVE A VISUAL ON VENOM...
...WE HAVE A MAN DOWN! GET HIM OUT OF THERE, DOUBLE TIME.

UNHH...


WHAT?! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM?

I'M NOT DONE WITH HIM YET!
YAY. THE CAVALRY'S HERE.
SURE, THEY'RE HERE TO KILL ME, BUT STILL...

YAY THEM...


STAND BACK! GARGAN'S MINE!
RADIOACTIVE MAN, ARE YOU SEEING THIS?
IT APPEARS WE HAVE AN UNREGISTERED SYMBIOTE.
YOU KNOW THE DRILL.
AGREED. WE'VE PRACTICED ENOUGH IN CASE VENOM EVER WENT ROGUE.
YOU UNLEASH A FULL SPREAD OF SONICS AND I'LL RAISE THE RADIATION LEVELS...
"...UNTIL THE AIR AROUND HIM IGNITES IN FLAMES."
EDDIE!
IT'S LIKE THEY SET OFF A BOMB IN THE CITY! A BABY ATOMIC BOMB...
...AND WRAPPED IT AROUND ONE MAN: EDDIE BROCK!
YOU THINK SONICS CAN HURT ME?
THAT FIRE CAN KILL ME?
YOU MUST HAVE ME CONFUSED WITH SOMEONE ELSE!
I'VE BEEN CHOSEN FOR THIS! AND NOTHING WILL STAY MY HAND!
HE BROKE FREE?! THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE! THAT'S--

--THE STUPIDEST MOTHER-LOVING THING I'VE EVER HEARD!
WONDERFUL. THE WEBS ON BULLSEYE'S MOUTH ARE ALMOST GONE.
YOU'RE LOSING MEN WHILE I'M STUCK IN THIS FREAKING CHAIR!
I'M BULLSEYE! JUST LET ME OUT AND I'LL KICK THE CRAP OUT OF EVERYBODY!
NO CHANCE. THAT CHAIR'S BEEN PROGRAMMED BY DIRECTOR OSBORN.
HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS THE CODE THAT UNLOCKS IT. WITHOUT HIM WE CAN'T--
YEAH? SO WHERE'S OSBORN?...
"WHERE THE HELL IS NORMAN OSBORN?!"
DON'T YOU GET IT? YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE! NOT NOW!
ALL THE PIECES WERE PLACED ON THE BOARD, JUST RIGHT. AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO RUIN EVERYTHING!
BAM!
PKOW!
PATHETIC. LOOK AT YOU. CRYING ABOUT LOSING SOME GAME. THROWING A TANTRUM.
AND I'M SUPPOSED TO TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY?
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A WEAK COPY. THE WATERED DOWN MODEL. NO, WORSE...
...THE DECAF VERSION.
...
DIE!
"GET OUT OF MY WAY!

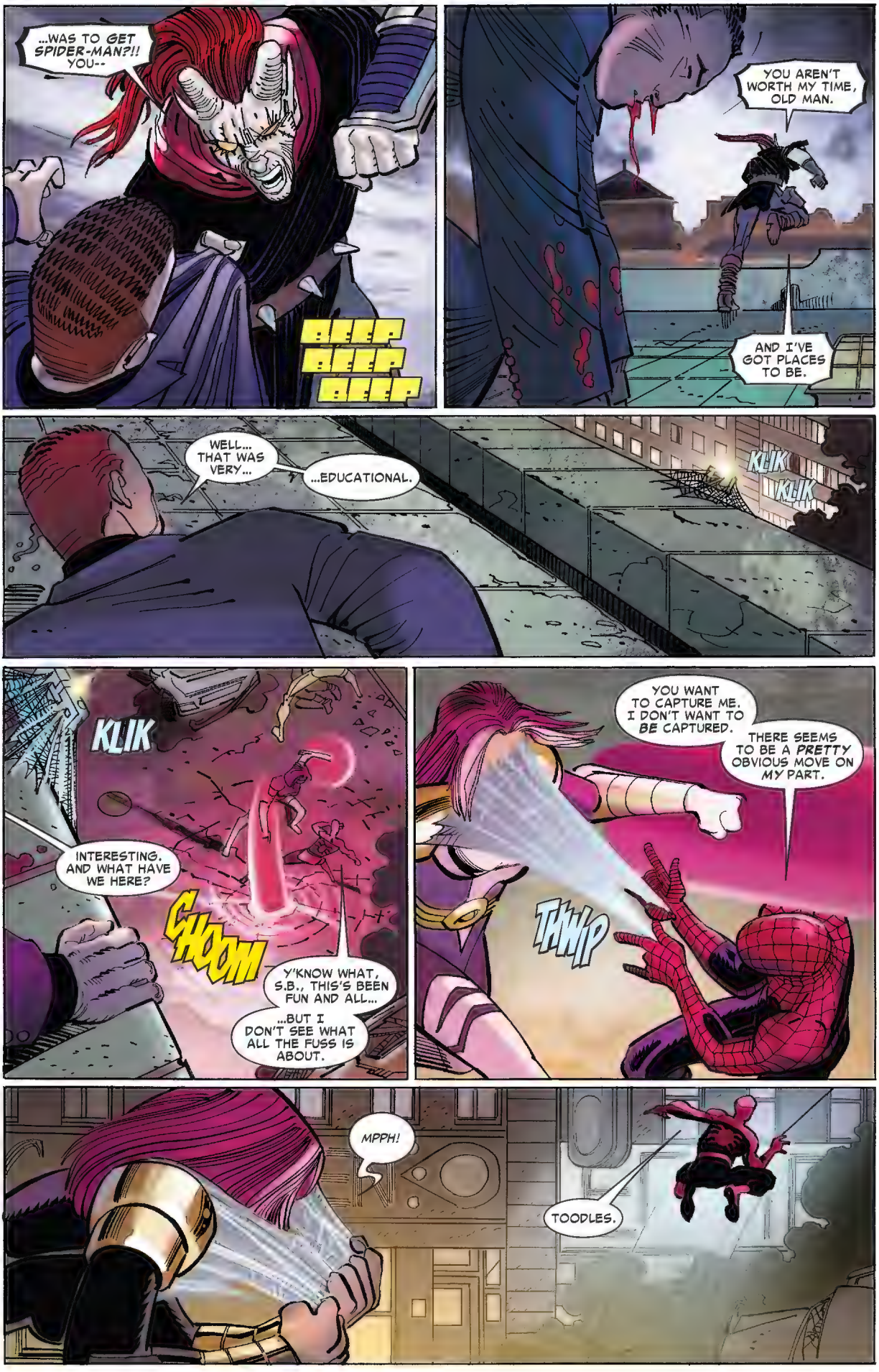
THE MAN YOU'RE PROTECTING HAS A SICKNESS, A DEADLY PARASITE!
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I'M TRYING TO SAVE US ALL!
SKRAK
EVERYONE, FALL BACK! WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THIS THREAT!
OUR ONLY MISSION HERE IS TO GET--
--SPIDER-MAN?
FOO. KINDA HOPING YOU'D FORGET ABOUT ME.
THERE GOES THE "SLINK OFF WHILE NO ONE'S WATCHING PLAN." ON THE PLUS SIDE...
...SPIDER-SENSE IS BACK!
RADIOACTIVE MAN! OVER HERE!
NICE TRY. BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME...

"...HE'S A LITTLE BUSY AT THE MOMENT."
RADIOACTIVE MAN? YOUR POWERS MAKE YOU RADIOACTIVE?
YOU'RE PROBABLY GIVING PEOPLE CANCER! ALL THE TIME!
SO? WHAT BUSINESS IS IT OF YOURS?
RWARR!
HEY, SONGBIRD. REMEMBER WHEN WE USED TO TEAM UP AND DO HERO STUFF?
LIKE WHEN WE SAVED THE EARTH FROM THE ENCLAVE? GOOD TIMES.
NOW LOOK AT YOU. ACTING LIKE A TOTAL GOVERNMENT STOOGE.
I'M-- FOLLOWING ORDERS!
THE NAZI EXCUSE? YOU ACTUALLY WENT THERE?
WOW! WHO TAUGHT YOU THAT ONE? BARON ZEMO? OR NORMAN OS--
UH-OH. POWERS GOING ON THE FRITZ AGAIN!

ENOUGH!
SPAKK
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU THUNDERBOLTS?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HEROES!
OKAY. I SEE I'VE TOUCHED A NERVE WITH THE NAZI THING.
LET'S START OVER. HOW'S YOUR MOM?
IT'S NOT JUST MY SPIDER-SENSE.
MY STRENGTH, MY SPEED, EVERYTHING'S CUTTING IN AND OUT! BUT WHY?
FWAM
BROCK! WHATEVER HE DID TO ME, WHENEVER HE'S NEAR, IT PLAYS HAVOC WITH MY POWERS!
SPIDER-MAN? LET ME HELP YOU WITH--
NO! ENOUGH WITH THE HELPING ALREADY!
CAN'T LET THE T-BOLTS TWIG TO THIS. 'CAUSE IF ANYONE KNOWS HOW TO EXPLOIT A WEAKNESS...

...IT'S NORMAN OSBORN!
INTERESTING. YOU'RE USING MY OLD RAZOR WINGS. AND EARLIER THAT MARK 7 GLIDER...
...WHICH GIVES ME A GOOD IDEA WHICH ONE OF MY WEAPONS CACHES YOU RAIDED. THE QUESTION IS, WHY?
THE POWER OF THE GOBLIN AND YOU USE IT TO PLAY "POLITICS"?
FOOL! THAT'S WHERE THE REAL POWER LIES. AND I HAD EVERYTHING SET UP!
BUT IF YOUR MEN CATCH OR KILL THE SPIDER-TRACER KILLER IN CROWNE'S NAME...
...IT COULD UPSET EVERYTHING! CAN'T YOU SEE THE BIG PICTURE?!
THE BIG PICTURE? CITY POLITICS? ARE YOU SERIOUS? I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT ANY OF THAT.
I JUST WANT TO GET SPIDER-MAN!
YOU-YOU JUST WANT TO--
GRAHH!

KERAKK
AHHHH!
YOU! YOU HAD EVERYTHING!
THUNK
POWER! WEALTH! POSITION!
CONTROL OF AN EMPIRE!
THOK
THE RIGHT FRIENDS! THE RIGHT FAMILY!
AND THE NAME! THE OSBORN LEGACY!
AND ALL YOU EVER WANTED...
WAKK

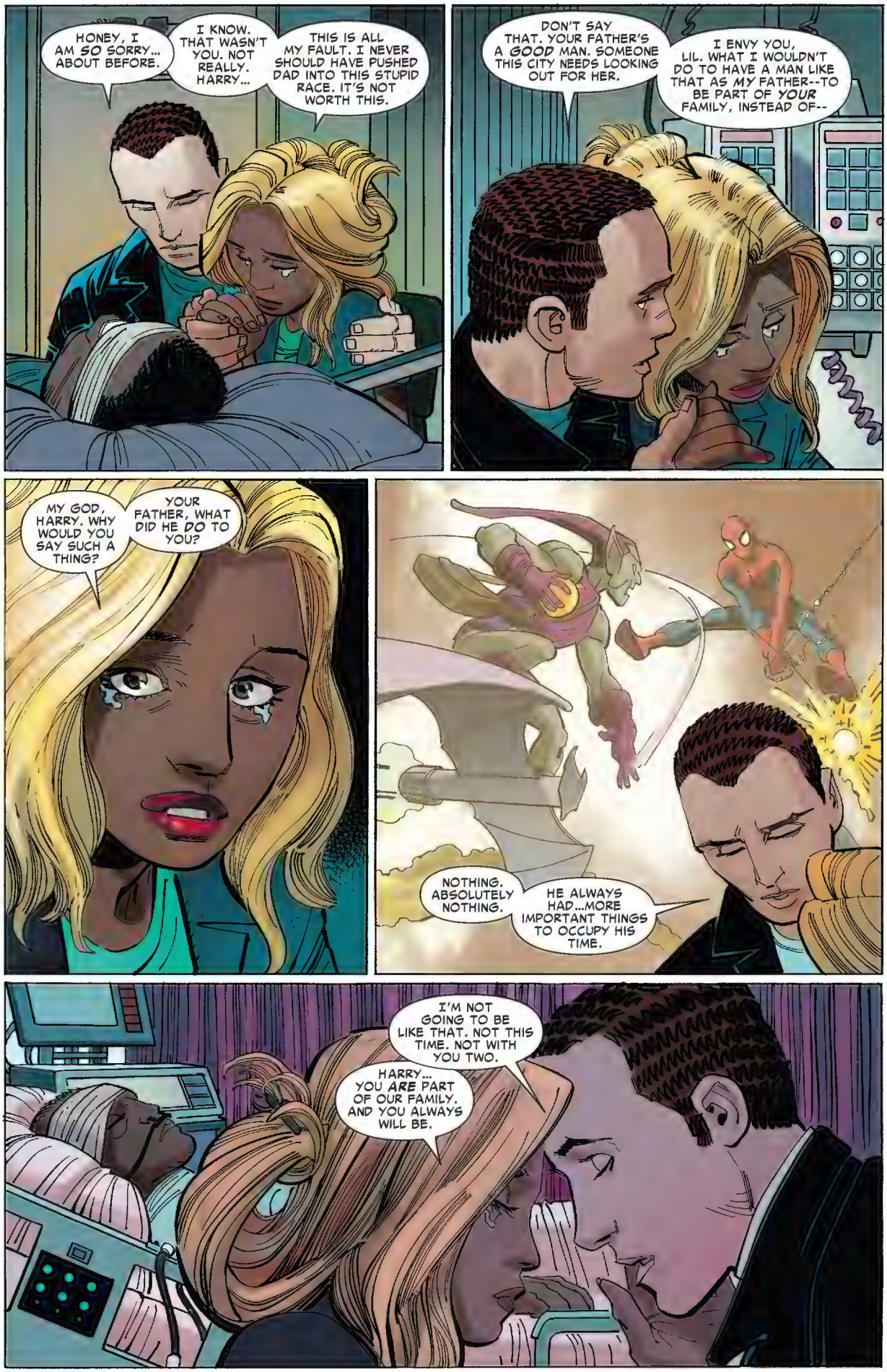

...WAS TO GET SPIDER-MAN?!! YOU--
BEEP BEEP BEEP
YOU AREN'T WORTH MY TIME, OLD MAN.
AND I'VE GOT PLACES TO BE.
WELL... THAT WAS VERY...
...EDUCATIONAL.
KLIK KLIK
KLIK
INTERESTING. AND WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
KHOOM
Y'KNOW WHAT, S.B., THIS'S BEEN FUN AND ALL...
...BUT I DON'T SEE WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS ABOUT.
YOU WANT TO CAPTURE ME. I DON'T WANT TO BE CAPTURED.
THERE SEEMS TO BE A PRETTY OBVIOUS MOVE ON MY PART.
THWIP
MPPH!
TOODLES.

SPIDER-MAN! WAIT! I HAVEN'T CURED YOU YET!
I KNOW! AND I'D LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY, THANKS!
THUNDERBOLTS, WE'RE PULLING OUT! SOUND OFF.
THIS IS SONGBIRD.
I HAVE CHEN. THE GROUND TROOPS HAVE VENOM...
...OR WHAT'S LEFT OF HIM... SAFELY ABOARD THE ZEUS.
NO!
WELL, THAT DIDN'T GO WELL. WE GOT HIT PRETTY BAD.
REALLY, MS. GOLD? OUR PREY IS WOUNDED AND ON THE RUN. AND I'VE JUST FOUND US A VERY VALUABLE TROPHY.
TRUST ME. TODAY'S MISSION WAS A SUCCESS.
WHAT NOW? GO AFTER THE SPIDER? OR...
NO, THE CHOICE HAS BEEN MADE. THEY HAVE GARGAN. AND THE SYMBIOTE.
SORRY, SPIDER-MAN, YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT. I MUST ANSWER TO A HIGHER CALLING.

OKAY, THIS IS A NEW LOW.
THESE F.E.A.S.T. DONATION BINS ARE FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LEAVE CLOTHES FOR THE HOMELESS...
...NOT EMERGENCY CIVVIES FOR SUPER HEROES ON THE RUN.
I'LL JUST BE SURE TO RETURN 'EM LATER. ALL THAT MATTERS NOW...
...IS WHAT BROUGHT ME DOWN HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
EXCUSE ME! HAS ANYONE SEEN MY...
AUNT MAY! THERE YOU ARE! I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED ON THE NEWS.
PETER! ISN'T THIS DREADFUL? DID YOU COME BY TO PITCH IN?
UH...SURE, BUT FIRST I HAD TO SEE THAT YOU WERE OKAY.
I'M FINE. IT'S THAT POOR EDDIE BROCK I'M WORRIED ABOUT.
GOING THROUGH ALL THOSE CHANGES. FACING THOSE NASTY THUNDERBOLTS. I HOPE HE'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT EDDIE BROCK? AUNT MAY, YOU'RE ONE IN A MILLION. C'MON, LET'S CLEAN UP.
F.E.A.S.T.
‹STAND BACK.›
‹WE MUST WAIT UNTIL THE CROWDS GO AWAY.›
‹ARE YOU CERTAIN THIS IS IT?›
‹YES, HAN. THIS IS THE PLACE. THE HOUSE OF MIRACLES.›

The Red Cent Diner.
ON 22ND ST. AND 3RD AVE.
HE'S LATE. IT IS A "HE," RIGHT?
HE'LL BE HERE, BEN.
TELL ME, SALLY, ABOUT THIS "CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE" OF YOURS... WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, DID YOU HAVE A LOT OF IMAGINARY FRIENDS?
HE'S REAL, BEN. YOU KNOW HIM. IN FACT...
...HERE HE IS.
SORRY I'M LATE. IT COULDN'T BE HELPED. SALLY. MR. URICH.
MR. OSBORN.
PLEASE, JUST HARRY. MR. OSBORN'S MY FATHER.
HERE, THIS SHOULD GIVE YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED.
OSCORP ENTERPRISES
FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN CROWNE INDUSTRIES AND OSCORP.
I FOUND THESE TUCKED AWAY BACK WHEN I WAS WORKING AT DAD'S COMPANY.
IT'S PROOF THAT CROWNE'S BEEN DEALING IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING--WITH THE HELP OF OSCORP'S SHIPMENTS TO AND FROM MAINLAND CHINA.
I'LL HAVE TO GO OVER THIS WITH A FINE-TOOTH COMB, OSBORN.
I KNOW ABOUT...THE HISTORY YOU HAVE WITH YOUR FATHER. AND THE FACT THAT YOU'RE PART OF THE HOLLISTER CAMP...
I UNDERSTAND.
DO YOU, HARRY? YOU'RE PLAYING WITH THE BIG BOYS NOW. WITH VERY HIGH STAKES.
I KNOW, MS. FLOYD. IN FACT, I'M OFF TO THE HOSPITAL TO PAY MY RESPECTS TO BILL HOLLISTER.
I'M WELL AWARE OF THE STAKES, ESPECIALLY WITH THE GAMES CROWNE AND MY FATHER LIKE TO PLAY.

Mount Sinai Hospital.
HARRY, BETTY BRANT FOR THE DB.
CONSIDERING MR. HOLLISTER'S CONDITION, AND HIS CONNECTIONS TO MARTIN LI'S F.E.A.S.T. CENTER...
...ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO MOVE HIM TO THE SHELTER IN THE HOPES OF A MIRACLE CURE? HARRY?
I'M SO SORRY, CARLIE. I WISH WE COULD'VE DONE MORE.
WHAT *COULD* YOU HAVE DONE, VIN? THAT MENACE CHARACTER SOUNDS SO...I MEAN, IF I WERE THERE...
HEY, I HOPE YOU *NEVER* HAVE TO SEE THAT CREEP.
CHECK IT OUT, PARTNER. THE BOYFRIEND'S HERE.
OSBORN.
ARE YOU OKAY, CARLIE? I KNOW BILL MEANS THE WORLD TO YOU.
TO A LOT OF US, HARRY. YOU SHOULD GO IN. LILY WOULD WANT YOU BY HER SIDE.
NYPD


HONEY, I AM SO SORRY... ABOUT BEFORE.
I KNOW. THAT WASN'T YOU. NOT REALLY. HARRY...
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT. I NEVER SHOULD HAVE PUSHED DAD INTO THIS STUPID RACE. IT'S NOT WORTH THIS.
DON'T SAY THAT. YOUR FATHER'S A GOOD MAN. SOMEONE THIS CITY NEEDS LOOKING OUT FOR HER.
I ENVY YOU, LIL. WHAT I WOULDN'T DO TO HAVE A MAN LIKE THAT AS MY FATHER--TO BE PART OF YOUR FAMILY, INSTEAD OF--
MY GOD, HARRY. WHY WOULD YOU SAY SUCH A THING?
YOUR FATHER, WHAT DID HE DO TO YOU?
NOTHING. ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.
HE ALWAYS HAD...MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO OCCUPY HIS TIME.
I'M NOT GOING TO BE LIKE THAT. NOT THIS TIME. NOT WITH YOU TWO.
HARRY... YOU ARE PART OF OUR FAMILY. AND YOU ALWAYS WILL BE.

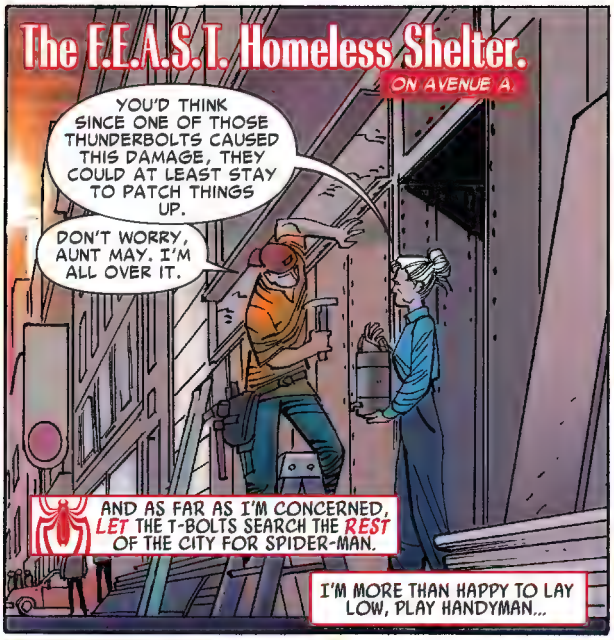
Osborn Manor.
ON COLUMBUS CIRCLE
HAVE YOU SEEN TODAY'S HEADLINES, OSBORN?! HAVE YOU?!
WELL?! THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO STOP WITH YOU IN TOWN!
THE DAILY BUGLE
BEASTS BATTLE AT THE F.E.A.S.T. MENACE MANGLES HOLLISTER HOME... PHELPS A MUTANT?!
SPIDER-TRACER KILLER STRIKES AGAIN!
SEVENTH VICTIM FOUND IN EAST RIVER
BUT LOOK! THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER KILLING!
NOW I LOOK LIKE A TOTAL MORON FOR SUPPORTING YOU!
NO, RANDALL, YOU LOOK LIKE A MORON WHO CAN'T READ PAST THE HEADLINES.
ACCORDING TO THE CORONER'S REPORT, THE TIME OF DEATH WAS BEFORE THE THUNDERBOLTS SET FOOT IN THE CITY.
IF ANYTHING, THAT ARTICLE WILL HAVE NEW YORKERS WORKED UP AND GALVANIZED BEHIND US. YOUR FRIEND BENNETT DOES GOOD WORK.
WELL?! IS THAT WHAT WAS SO IMPORTANT THAT YOU AND YOUR ENTOURAGE HAD TO BE GRANTED ACCESS TO THIS SECURE AREA? IS IT?!
NOW GET OUT. SOME OF US HAVE WORK TO DO, CROWNE...
COCKY SUNNUVA...
...LIKE WINNING YOU THIS ELECTION!
THAT'S RIGHT. ALL OF YOU. OUT.
THIS AREA'S RESTRICTED. THUNDERBOLTS STAFF ONLY.

SUCH IS THE CURSE OF BEING THE SMARTEST MAN IN THE ROOM.
SPEAKING OF WHICH. MS. GOLD. GENTLEMEN.
TIME FOR TODAY'S BRIEFING...
THANKS TO THAT CAMERA I FOUND-- WEBBED TO A WALL...
...WE'VE LEARNED SOME INVALUABLE INFORMATION.
SIR, ABOUT THAT, YOU FOUND IT WHILE YOU WERE OFFLINE. WHERE WERE YOU?
THAT WAS A PERSONAL MATTER. IF I WERE YOU, I'D PAY CLOSER ATTENTION TO THIS.
TEK
HM. EXCELLENT PICTURE QUALITY.
AND THE CAMERA WAS FIXED TO A WALL? LOOK, IT'S ALMOST LIKE HE'S POSING FOR THESE.
WHAT'S HE FIGHTING? THAT WHITE VENOM THING THAT LAID UP MAC?

ACCORDING TO GARGAN, HE CALLS HIMSELF "ANTI-VENOM."
WATCH.
HERE. WHERE HE JOINS WITH SPIDER-MAN.
FROM THEN ON, WHENEVER THE TWO OF THEM ARE IN THE SAME PROXIMITY...
...THE WALL-CRAWLER'S REACTION TIME IS WAY DOWN. HE APPEARS SLUGGISH. WEAK. WE CAN USE THAT.
SIR, WE SHOULD AVOID THAT AT ALL COSTS. THAT CREATURE DISABLED VENOM, IT EARLY TOOK ME OUT AS WELL.
AND IT HAS NONE OF THE ORIGINAL SYMBIOTE'S WEAKNE -IF IT HAS ANY WE NESSES AT ALL!
I'LL FIND THEM.
TEK
I HAVE TECHNICIANS EXAMINING WHAT IT DID TO GARGAN AS WE SPEAK.
WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT OF BEING PREPARED...
I PROUDLY PRESENT TO YOU:
ONE OF SPIDER-MAN'S GREATEST AND MOST SELF-DESTRUCTIVE SECRETS!
WHAT? DON'T YOU SEE IT?!

HOW ABOUT NOW? HE'S NOT POSING, MS. GOLD.
MUHAMMAD ISN'T GOING TO THE MOUNTAIN. THE MOUNTAIN IS COMING TO MUHAMMAD.
ALL THESE YEARS, THE BUG'S BEEN TAKING HIS OWN PICTURES. PARKER'S JUST HIS FRONT. SOME FACE HE SPLITS THE PROFITS WITH.
TEK
SEE? IN EVERY SHOT, EVEN WHEN HE'S FACING AWAY, THIS SPIDER IS DEAD CENTER.
THERE'S A LOCATOR CHIP THERE. THE CAMERA TRACKS ITS FREQUENCY. AND NOW...
...I KNOW WHAT THAT FREQUENCY IS! I CAN ENGINEER DEVICES THAT CAN TRACK IT, WHEREVER HE GOES!
WEAPONS THAT WILL ZERO IN ON IT, COUNTER HIS SPIDER-SENSE, AND NEVER MISS!
-AHEM-
YOU'RE FORGETTING SOMETHING, OSBORN. YOU ALREADY HAVE A WEAPON THAT CAN DO THAT.
TRUST ME. HE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD!
Next:
The Spider Marks the Spot!

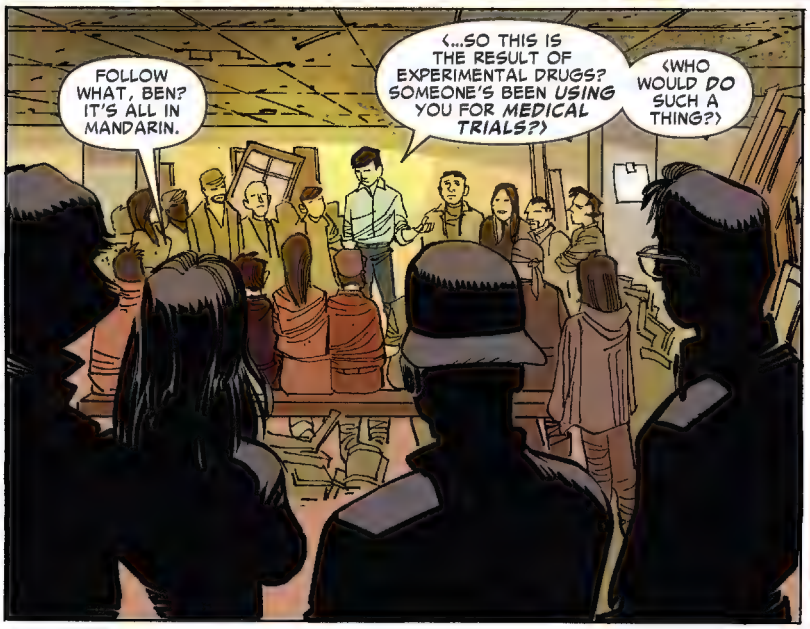
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #572


The F.E.A.S.T. Homeless Shelter.
ON AVENUE A.
YOU'D THINK SINCE ONE OF THOSE THUNDERBOLTS CAUSED THIS DAMAGE, THEY COULD AT LEAST STAY TO PATCH THINGS UP.
DON'T WORRY, AUNT MAY. I'M ALL OVER IT.
AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, LET THE T-BOLTS SEARCH THE REST OF THE CITY FOR SPIDER-MAN.
I'M MORE THAN HAPPY TO LAY LOW, PLAY HANDYMAN...

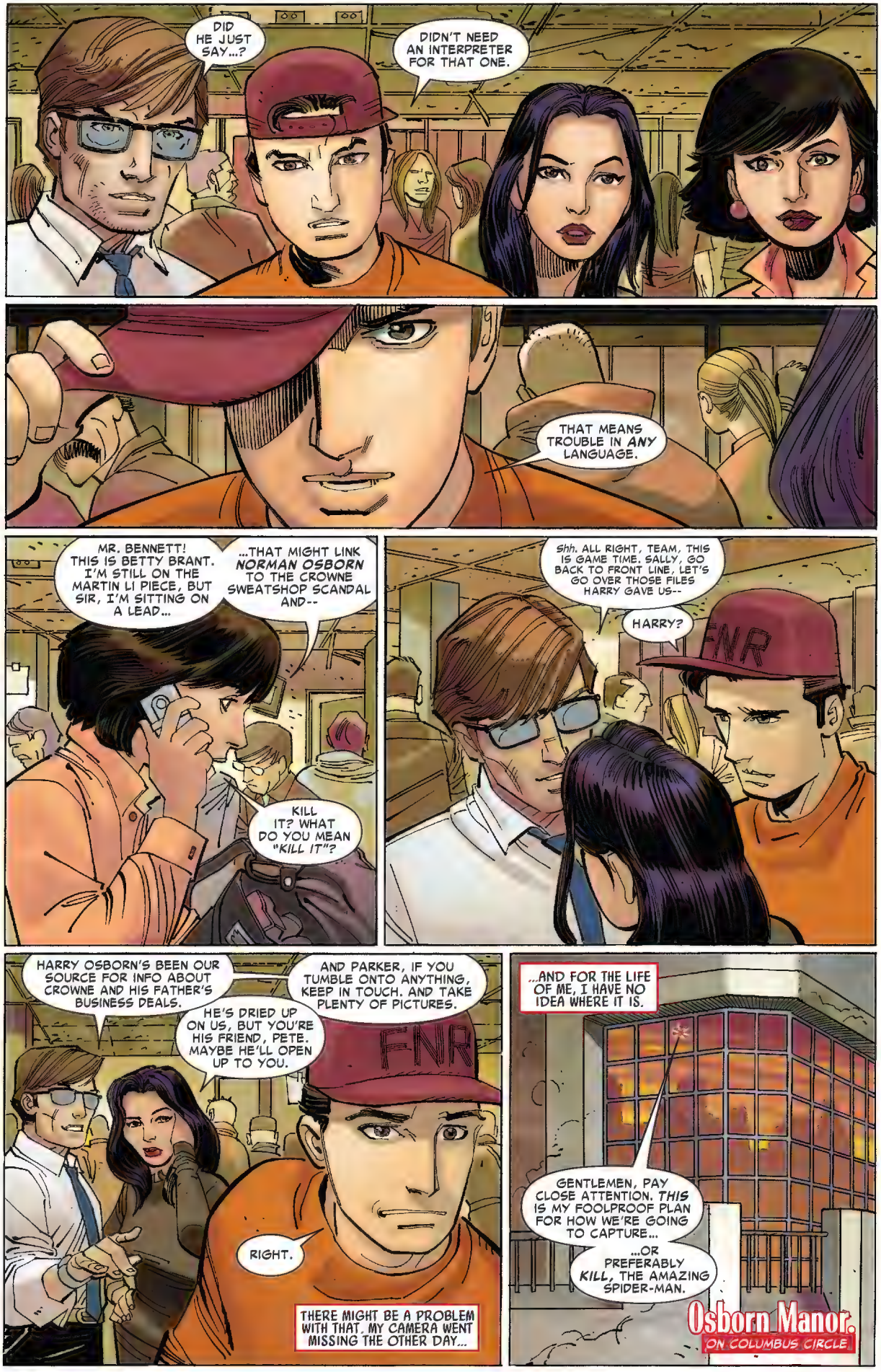
...AND HELP AUNT MAY AND MARTIN LI LOOK AFTER THEIR NEW GUESTS...
(THANK YOU, MR. LI. WE DIDN'T KNOW WHERE ELSE TO GO.)
(IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU'RE FREE TO STAY HERE AS LONG AS YOU NEED. BUT PLEASE, WE HAVE TO KNOW...)
(...THESE LESIONS YOU ALL HAVE, THIS ILLNESS, HOW DID THIS HAPPEN TO YOU?)

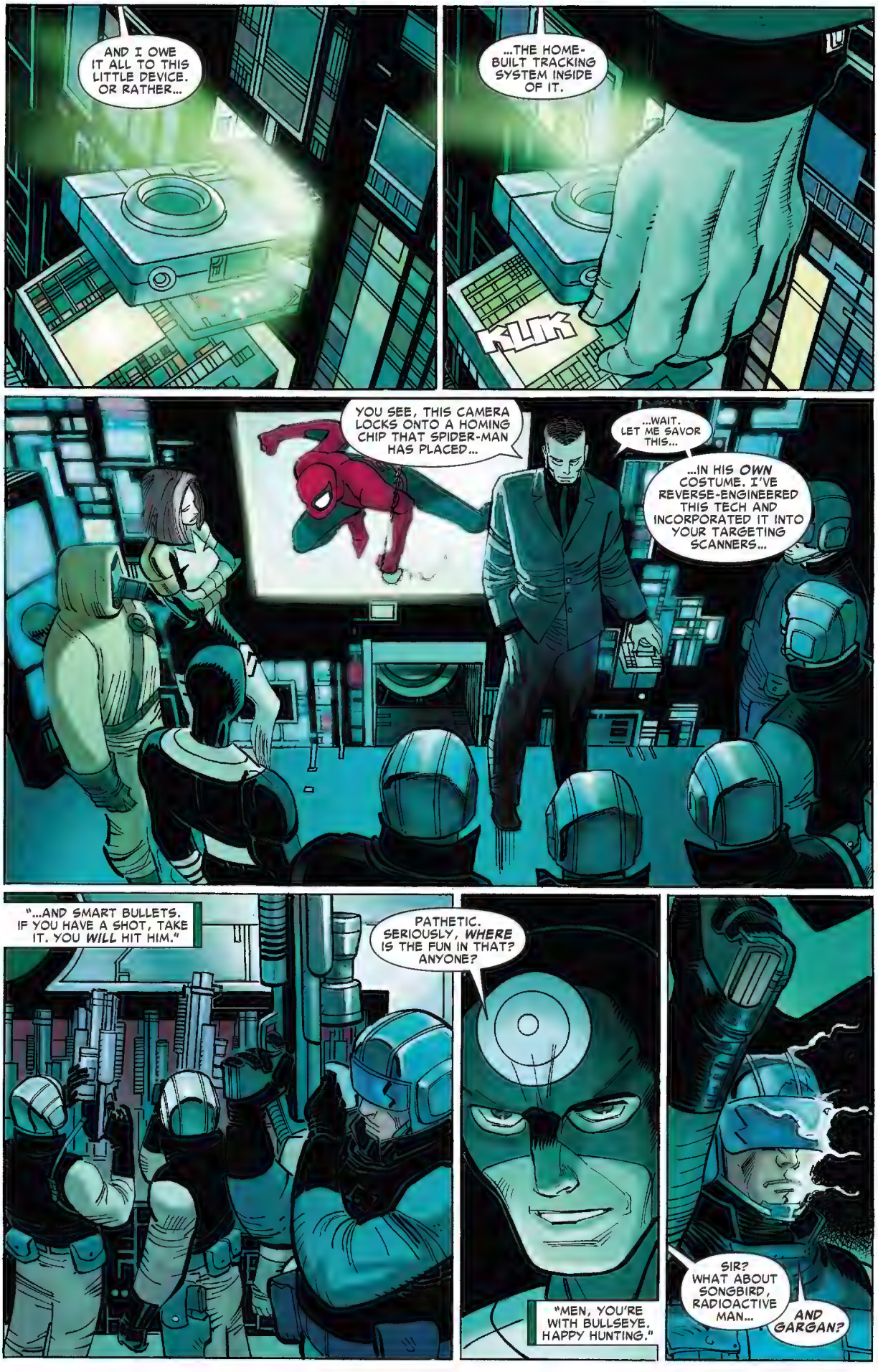
HEY, BEN. WHAT'D I MISS?
BEATS ME, PARKER. STILL, THANKS FOR TIPPING SALLY AND ME OFF TO THIS ONE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, BRANT? FINDING THE MISSING SWEATSHOP WORKERS ON YOUR OWN?
I DIDN'T THINK THE DB STILL CHASED AFTER REAL STORIES.
ACTUALLY, SALLY...

...I'M COVERING THE MIRACLE CURES HERE AT THE SHELTER.
NICE. WHAT'S YOUR NEXT HARD-HITTING PIECE? SOMEONE FIND BIGFOOT IN THEIR FREEZER?
THIS FROM A "REPORTER" WHO GETS ALL HER SOURCES FROM HER MYSPACE PAGE--
LADIES, PLEASE! I'M TRYING TO FOLLOW THIS.

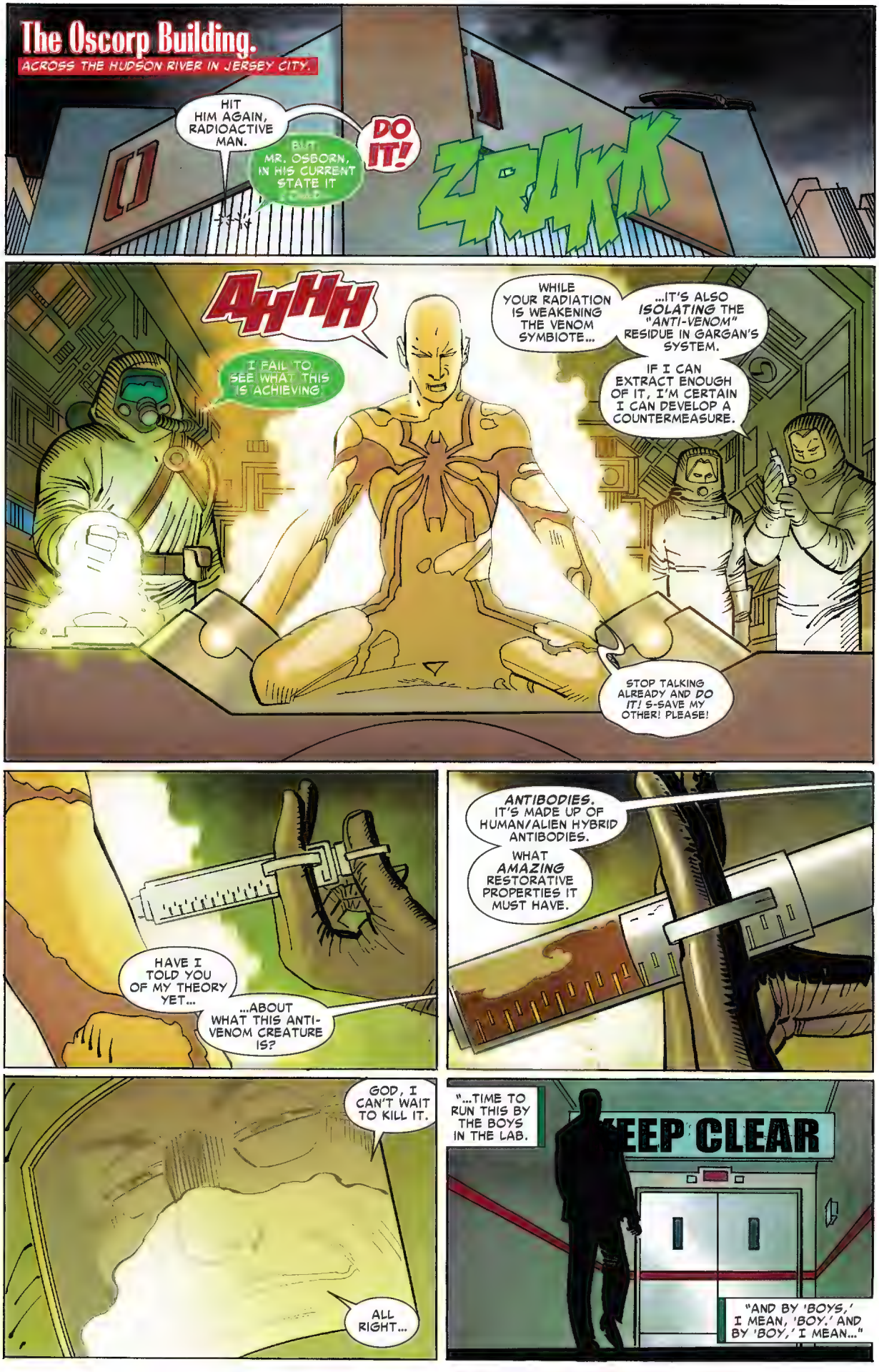

FOLLOW WHAT, BEN? IT'S ALL IN MANDARIN.
(...SO THIS IS THE RESULT OF EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS? SOMEONE'S BEEN USING YOU FOR MEDICAL TRIALS?)
(WHO WOULD DO SUCH A THING?)

(I AM NOT SURE. BUT THE MEN WHO TOOK US FOR THE TREATMENTS, WHENEVER WE APPROACHED THE BUILDING...)
(...THEY CALLED IT) OSCORP.


DID HE JUST SAY...?
DIDN'T NEED AN INTERPRETER FOR THAT ONE.
THAT MEANS TROUBLE IN ANY LANGUAGE.
MR. BENNETT! THIS IS BETTY BRANT. I'M STILL ON THE MARTIN LI PIECE, BUT SIR, I'M SITTING ON A LEAD...
...THAT MIGHT LINK NORMAN OSBORN TO THE CROWNE SWEATSHOP SCANDAL AND--
KILL IT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN "KILL IT"?
shh. ALL RIGHT, TEAM, THIS IS GAME TIME. SALLY, GO BACK TO FRONT LINE, LET'S GO OVER THOSE FILES HARRY GAVE US--
HARRY?
FNR
HARRY OSBORN'S BEEN OUR SOURCE FOR INFO ABOUT CROWNE AND HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS DEALS.
HE'S DRIED UP ON US, BUT YOU'RE HIS FRIEND, PETE. MAYBE HE'LL OPEN UP TO YOU.
AND PARKER, IF YOU TUMBLE ONTO ANYTHING, KEEP IN TOUCH. AND TAKE PLENTY OF PICTURES.
FNR
RIGHT.
THERE MIGHT BE A PROBLEM WITH THAT. MY CAMERA WENT MISSING THE OTHER DAY...
...AND FOR THE LIFE OF ME, I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE IT IS.
GENTLEMEN, PAY CLOSE ATTENTION. THIS IS MY FOOLPROOF PLAN FOR HOW WE'RE GOING TO CAPTURE...
...OR PREFERABLY KILL, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.
Osborn Manor.
ON COLUMBUS CIRCLE


AND I OWE IT ALL TO THIS LITTLE DEVICE. OR RATHER...
...THE HOME-BUILT TRACKING SYSTEM INSIDE OF IT.
KLIK
YOU SEE, THIS CAMERA LOCKS ONTO A HOMING CHIP THAT SPIDER-MAN HAS PLACED...
...WAIT. LET ME SAVOR THIS...
...IN HIS OWN COSTUME. I'VE REVERSE-ENGINEERED THIS TECH AND INCORPORATED IT INTO YOUR TARGETING SCANNERS...
"...AND SMART BULLETS. IF YOU HAVE A SHOT, TAKE IT. YOU WILL HIT HIM."
PATHETIC. SERIOUSLY, WHERE IS THE FUN IN THAT? ANYONE?
"MEN, YOU'RE WITH BULLSEYE. HAPPY HUNTING."
SIR? WHAT ABOUT SONGBIRD, RADIOACTIVE MAN...
AND GARGAN?

YES. MS. GOLD, DR. CHEN, YOU'LL BE ACCOMPANYING ME TO OSCORP. YOU'RE BOTH ON GUARD DUTY.
GUARD DUTY?
MAC GARGAN'S SYMBIOTE IS A VALUABLE ASSET. I NEED THE TWO OF YOU TO WATCH OVER IT...
...UNTIL I CAN COME UP WITH A COUNTERMEASURE FOR *ANTI-VENOM*. THAT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG.
WHAT? THAT ANTI-VENOM CREATURE IS AN ALL-NEW ENTITY, WITH ALL OF A SYMBIOTE'S POWERS...
...BUT *NONE* OF ITS WEAKNESSES. HOW ARE YOU GOING TO--?
IT'S ON MY "*TO-DO LIST*" FOR TODAY. RIGHT AFTER "*DESTROY SPIDER-MAN*" AND BEFORE "*CURE CANCER.*"
YOU KNOW, CHEN, WE'VE BEEN WITH OSBORN FOR MONTHS, AND I STILL CAN'T TELL WHEN HE'S JOKING.
ACTUALLY MELISSA, I DON'T BELIEVE HE IS.
POK


The Oscorp Building.
ACROSS THE HUDSON RIVER IN JERSEY CITY.
HIT HIM AGAIN, RADIOACTIVE MAN.
BUT MR. OSBORN, IN HIS CURRENT STATE IT
DO IT!
ZRAKK
AHHH
I FAIL TO SEE WHAT THIS IS ACHIEVING
WHILE YOUR RADIATION IS WEAKENING THE VENOM SYMBIOTE...
...IT'S ALSO *ISOLATING* THE "*ANTI-VENOM*" RESIDUE IN GARGAN'S SYSTEM.
IF I CAN EXTRACT ENOUGH OF IT, I'M CERTAIN I CAN DEVELOP A COUNTERMEASURE.
STOP TALKING ALREADY AND *DO IT!* S-SAVE MY OTHER! PLEASE!
HAVE I TOLD YOU OF MY THEORY YET...
...ABOUT WHAT THIS ANTI-VENOM CREATURE IS?
ANTIBODIES. IT'S MADE UP OF HUMAN/ALIEN HYBRID ANTIBODIES.
WHAT *AMAZING* RESTORATIVE PROPERTIES IT MUST HAVE.
GOD, I CAN'T WAIT TO KILL IT.
ALL RIGHT...
"...TIME TO RUN THIS BY THE BOYS IN THE LAB.
EEP CLEAR
"AND BY 'BOYS,' I MEAN, 'BOY,' AND BY 'BOY,' I MEAN..."

FREAK.
HOW'S MY FAVORITE "WALKING PHARMACY"?
OSBORN! P-PLEASE! P-P-PUT ME OUT OF M-MY M-M-MISERY! KILL ME!
SORRY, MY SCABBY FRIEND. BUT NOT KILLING YOU IS THE POINT. YOU'RE SO ABSOLUTELY PERFECT JUST THE WAY YOU ARE.
AND WE ALL KNOW THAT WHATEVER KILLS YOU MAKES YOU... STRONGER.
DOCTORS?
ALL HIS LEVELS ARE HOLDING, MR. OSBORN.
GOOD. KEEP IT THAT WAY.

NEW WAYS TO DIE PART FIVE

EASY TARGETS

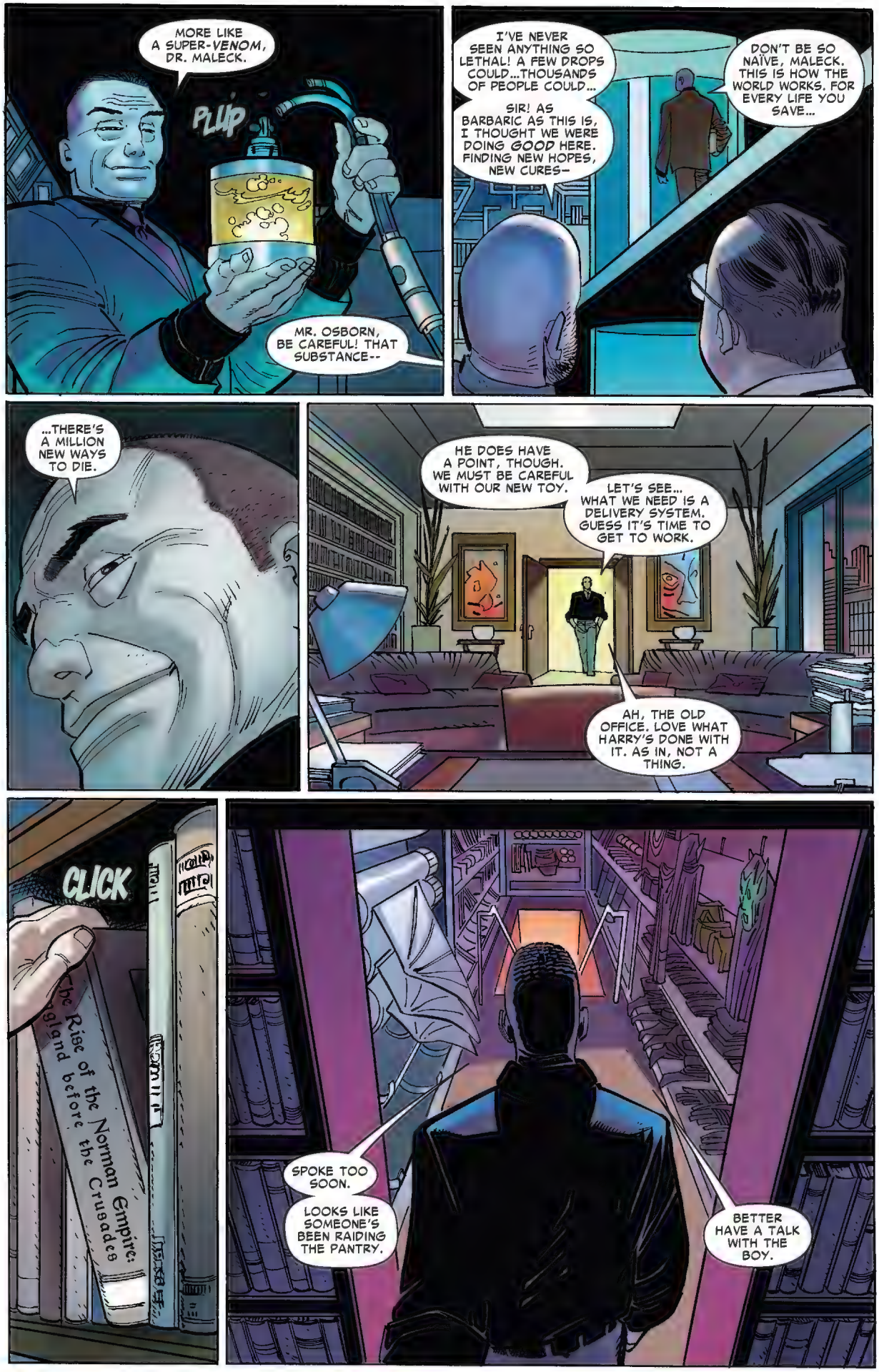
DAN SLOTT — WRITER | JOHN ROMITA JR. — PENCILS | KLAUS JANSON — INKS | DEAN WHITE — COLORS | VC'S CORY PETIT — LETTERS

TOM BRENNAN — ASST. EDITOR | STEPHEN WACKER — EDITOR | TOM BREVOORT — EXECUTIVE EDITOR | JOE QUESADA — EDITOR IN CHIEF | DAN BUCKLEY — PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, SLOTT & WELLS SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

THE CAN'T-KEEP-HIM-DEAD CREATURE CALLED FREAK WAS LAST SEEN BEING CARTED AWAY IN AN OSCORP TRUCK BACK IN ASM #558. -STEVE

AHH! IF--IF YOU'RE NOT GONNA P-P-PUT ME DOWN, AT LEAST G-G-GIVE ME SOMETHING FOR *THE PAIN!*
PERCS! OXY BOS! VICODIN! ANYTHING!
ABOUT THAT... OUR STUDIES SHOW THAT EVERY TIME YOU *"DIE"* AND COME BACK, YOUR BODY REMOVES A WEAKNESS.
LAST WE CHECKED, IT CURED YOU OF YOUR ADDICTION TO DRUGS BY REMOVING THE PLEASURE CENTER OF YOUR BRAIN.
TO PUT IT SIMPLY...
...YOU CAN NEVER GET HIGH AGAIN.
NOOO!
GENTLEMEN, ARE WE CURRENTLY USING FREAK TO PRODUCE ANY VACCINES OR WHATNOTS?
NO, SIR. HIS SYSTEM'S CLEAN.
WE WERE ABOUT TO INTRODUCE A NEW STRAIN OF WEST NILE VIRUS, BUT WE CAN PUT THAT ON HOLD.
GOOD. LET'S SEE WHAT HE COMES UP WITH TO HANDLE *THIS.*
LOOK, IT'S DETECTING THE FOREIGN SUBSTANCE.
AND DEVELOPING A BIOLOGICAL COUNTER-MEASURE.
BUT GENTLEMEN, LOOK AT THE READINGS! FREAK'S BODY HAS *NEVER* DONE THIS BEFORE...
IT'S PRODUCING A *POISON.* SOME KIND OF TOXIN... A *SUPER-TOXIN!*


MORE LIKE A SUPER-VENOM, DR. MALECK.
PLUP
MR. OSBORN, BE CAREFUL! THAT SUBSTANCE--
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING SO LETHAL! A FEW DROPS COULD...THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE COULD...
SIR! AS BARBARIC AS THIS IS, I THOUGHT WE WERE DOING GOOD HERE. FINDING NEW HOPES, NEW CURES--
DON'T BE SO NAÏVE, MALECK. THIS IS HOW THE WORLD WORKS. FOR EVERY LIFE YOU SAVE...
...THERE'S A MILLION NEW WAYS TO DIE.
HE DOES HAVE A POINT, THOUGH. WE MUST BE CAREFUL WITH OUR NEW TOY.
LET'S SEE... WHAT WE NEED IS A DELIVERY SYSTEM. GUESS IT'S TIME TO GET TO WORK.
AH, THE OLD OFFICE. LOVE WHAT HARRY'S DONE WITH IT. AS IN, NOT A THING.
CLICK
The Rise of the Norman Empire:
England before the Crusades
SPOKE TOO SOON.
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S BEEN RAIDING THE PANTRY.
BETTER HAVE A TALK WITH THE BOY.

OH, YES. I REMEMBER YOU.
I MADE YOU AS A GIFT...
...AND A CERTAIN LITTLE INGRATE CAST YOU ASIDE. WELL, NOT THIS TIME.
Hmm. GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE SOME MODIFICATIONS.
A NIP HERE. A TUCK THERE. OOPS...
ALMOST FORGOT. FIRST RULE OF SHOP.
ALWAYS WEAR PROTECTION.
HAHAHAHAHA!
The Coffee Bean.
OFF ASTOR PLACE.
THANKS FOR MEETING ME HERE, GUYS. SORRY I COULDN'T SWING BY THE HOSPITAL DURING VISITING HOURS...
AND, LILY, I PROMISE TO DROP IN AND SEE YOUR DAD, BUT...
I KNOW, PETE.
YOU'VE HAD YOUR HANDS FULL, PAL. WE HEARD ABOUT YOUR AUNT AND WHAT HAPPENED AT THE F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT.
FIRST BILL HAS A RUN-IN WITH MENACE, THEN VENOM HITS MR. LI'S PLACE... IT'S LIKE EVERYTHING'S HAPPENING ALL AT ONCE.
I KNOW. IT'S CRAZY.
AND YOU KNOW MORE THAN YOU'RE LETTING ON, "PAL."
BUT HOW CAN I BRING IT UP WITH LILY HERE? AND WITH EVERYTHING SHE'S GOING THROUGH?

breep breep
ONE SEC, GUYS. HELLO?
I KNOW IT'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
FATHER?
THEY SAY DAD'LL BE OUT IN A WEEK. BUT IT'S JUST...
FATHER? NORMAN OSBORN? GOTTA GET CLOSER...
UM...BUT YOU FEEL RESPONSIBLE, RIGHT? LIKE THERE WAS SOMETHING YOU COULD'VE DONE DIFFERENTLY.
AND NONE OF THIS WOULD'VE HAPPENED.
WAIT. WHY--WHY DO YOU SOUND LIKE..? OH, LORD, YOU'RE WEARING THE MASK AGAIN, AREN'T YOU?
DON'T TELL ME I'M ON PICTURE PHONE? HA! NEVER COULD PULL ONE OVER ON YOU, COULD I? LOOK, BOY...
...I'M IMPRESSED. YOU'VE EARNED SOME RESPECT. BUT REMEMBER THIS'S STILL MY HOUSE AND MY RULES. SO STOP TOUCHING MY STUFF!
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING, GOBLIN?
UH... YEAH. HEY, I'VE BEEN THERE.
SO WHAT DID YOU DO, PETER? HOW DO YOU GET PAST IT?
EASY. I DIDN'T.
I MADE A PROMISE. THAT I'D NEVER LET SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPEN AGAIN...TO ANYONE I LOVE.
"RISE OF THE NORMAN EMPIRE?" WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? ANOTHER CALL? WAIT!
PETER...
LILY? WHAT ARE YOU--?

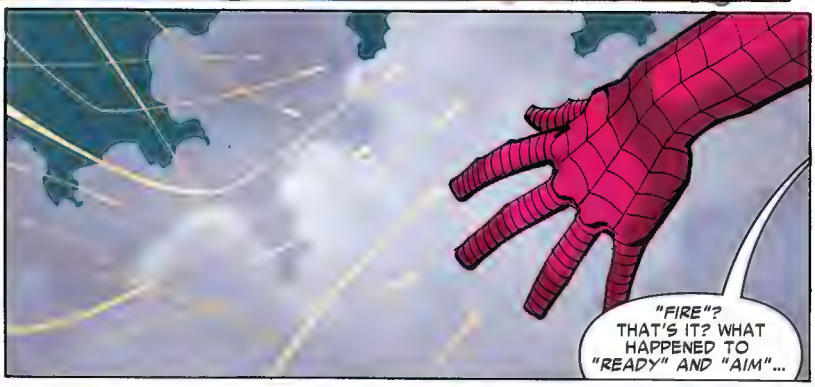
WHOA! SPIDER-SENSE! AND IT'S ALL OVER THE PLACE, FROM EVERY ANGLE!
YOIKS!
PETE?
PETER? WHAT WERE YOU...?
JUST REMEMBERED, GUYS, I GOTTA GO.
ACTUALLY... MAYBE WE SHOULD ALL SIT DOWN AND TALK.
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. LET'S ALL GO. FROM HERE. RIGHT NOW.
IN FACT, I'M THINKING DIFFERENT CABS. HOW'S THAT SOUND?
PETER? YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE.
SURE I AM. MORE MONEY FOR GAS. AND CABBIES. WE'RE SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY.
C'MON, YOU CRAZY KIDS. OUT. DOOR. NOW.
I REPEAT, THIS IS BULLSEYE. OSBORN, DO YOU COPY? YOUR TRACKING DEVICE LED US RIGHT TO HIM!
WE'VE FOUND THE WALL-CRAWLER. WE'RE TOO FAR AWAY FOR A GOOD VISUAL. WHOEVER HE IS, HE'S NEAR TWO CIVILIANS.
WHAT'S HIS LOCATION?
A COFFEE PLACE OFF ASTOR.
+SNORT+ THE COFFEE BEAN?
YEAH. HOW DID YOU--?
HA HA HA! SMALL WORLD. BULLSEYE, YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO MAKE IT SMALLER.
WHAT ABOUT THE TWO BYSTANDERS?
YEAH? WHAT ABOUT 'EM?
HA HA HA!

OH NO!
YOU HEARD THE BOSS. LIGHT 'EM UP!
POOM
YOU, INSIDE! LAY DOWN YOUR ARMS AND SURRENDER!
BY ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, YOU ARE UNDER ARREST!
KSSH
HARRY! LILY! KEEP DOWN!
KSSH
KSSH
PASHH
THIS IS MY FATHER'S DOING! -KAFF-
HE ACTUALLY -KAFF- THINKS I'M--
MY EYES!
NOT NOW, HARRY!
WE'VE GOT TO GET LILY TO SAFETY!
I'VE GOT HER!
HOW DID YOU KNOW, PETE...?
EXIT
NOW'S NOT THE TIME, HARRY! THE TWO OF YOU JUST GET AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE!
I'LL GO LOOK FOR HELP!

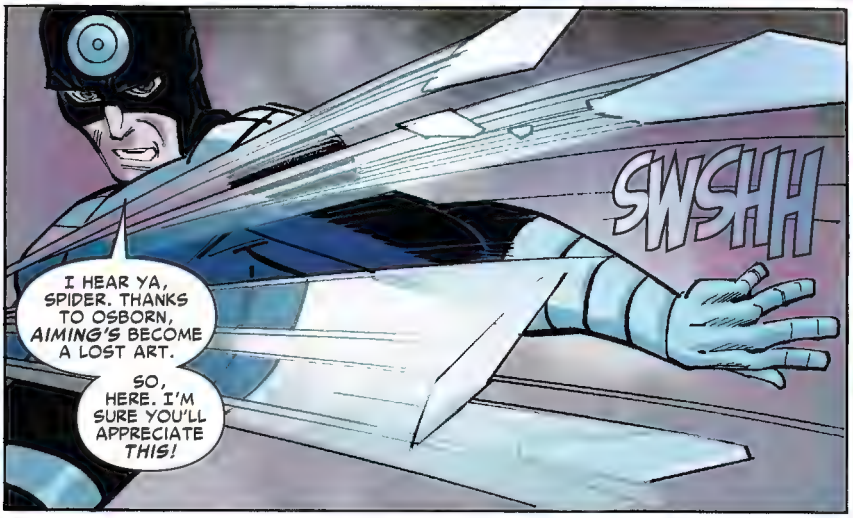
SKRAKCH
LAST WARNING, BUG-BOY: WEB-SHOOTERS ON THE GROUND, HANDS IN THE AIR.
UNLESS YOU WANT TO MAKE THIS INTERESTING?
GOOD. OKAY, FELLAS, PLAYTIME.
TWENTY BUCKS SAYS I ICE HIM WITH A HANDFUL OF GLASS AND NAILS...
...BEFORE ANY OF YOU LOSERS GET HIM WITH ALL YOUR HIGH-TECH CRAP.
SCANNER SAYS HE'S UP AHEAD.
SWITCHING TO INFRARED.
THINK I'M PICKING SOMETHING ...ULP+
FWHIP
GARVEY? YOU SAY SOMETHING? COME IN. WE'RE RIGHT ON TOP OF HIM.
ACTUALLY, THAT'S THE OTHER WAY 'ROUND.

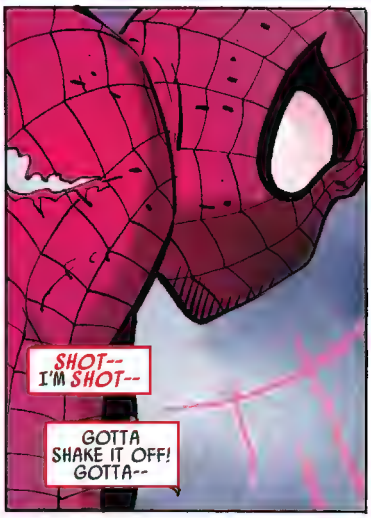
THUNK

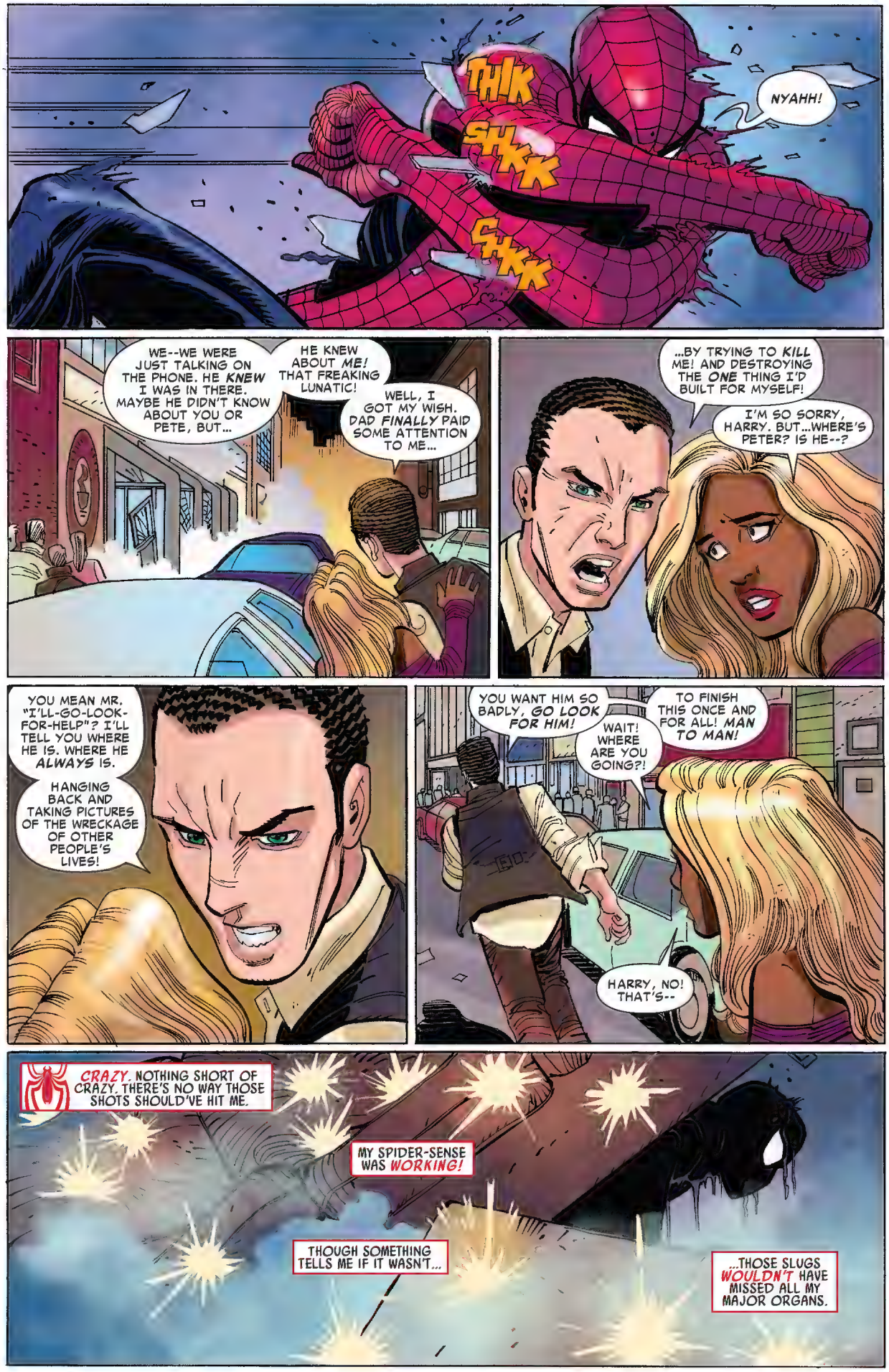
BRRRTTT
OVER THERE!
FIRE!


"FIRE"? THAT'S IT? WHAT HAPPENED TO "READY" AND "AIM"...

ARRHH!


SWSHH
I HEAR YA, SPIDER. THANKS TO OSBORN, AIMING'S BECOME A LOST ART.
SO, HERE. I'M SURE YOU'LL APPRECIATE THIS!


SHOT-- I'M SHOT--
GOTTA SHAKE IT OFF! GOTTA--


THIK
SHKK
CHKK
NYAHH!
WE--WE WERE JUST TALKING ON THE PHONE. HE KNEW I WAS IN THERE. MAYBE HE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT YOU OR PETE, BUT...
HE KNEW ABOUT ME! THAT FREAKING LUNATIC!
WELL, I GOT MY WISH. DAD FINALLY PAID SOME ATTENTION TO ME...
...BY TRYING TO KILL ME! AND DESTROYING THE ONE THING I'D BUILT FOR MYSELF!
I'M SO SORRY, HARRY. BUT...WHERE'S PETER? IS HE--?
YOU MEAN MR. "I'LL-GO-LOOK-FOR-HELP"? I'LL TELL YOU WHERE HE IS. WHERE HE ALWAYS IS.
HANGING BACK AND TAKING PICTURES OF THE WRECKAGE OF OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES!
YOU WANT HIM SO BADLY, GO LOOK FOR HIM!
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
TO FINISH THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL! MAN TO MAN!
HARRY, NO! THAT'S--
CRAZY. NOTHING SHORT OF CRAZY. THERE'S NO WAY THOSE SHOTS SHOULD'VE HIT ME.
MY SPIDER-SENSE WAS WORKING!
THOUGH SOMETHING TELLS ME IF IT WASN'T...
...THOSE SLUGS WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED ALL MY MAJOR ORGANS.

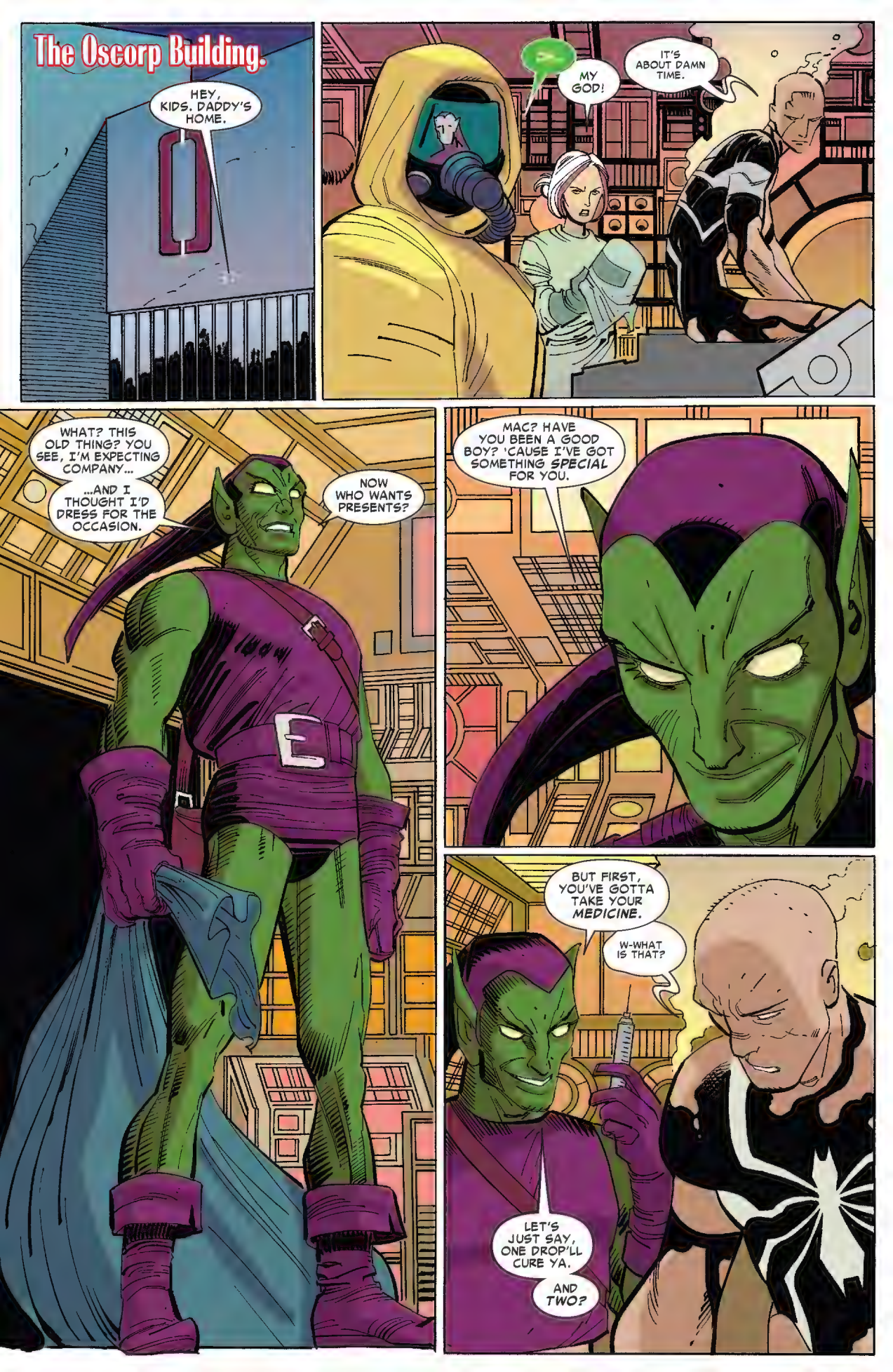
GOTTA REMEMBER, MY SPIDER-SENSE ISN'T A "GET OUT OF JAIL FREE" CARD.
BUT MAYBE THERE'S A WAY I CAN BOOST THE SIGNAL.
FAN OUT.
MY TRACERS WORK ON A SIMILAR FREQUENCY. IF I CAN GET ONE ON BULLSEYE...
...IT'LL BE LIKE HANGING A BELL ON THE CAT.
Hmm.
FWIP
HERE.
I THINK THIS'S YOURS.
AHK!
THWKK
THAT SOFTENED HIM UP. FULL SPREAD?
OSBORN DID SAY "DEAD OR ALIVE."
ENOUGH! THAT'S A LIFE YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

YOU THUNDERBOLT GOONS SICKEN ME!
I CAN'T EVEN BEAR TO LOOK LIKE YOU ANYMORE!
LOOKS LIKE THE SPIDER'S GOT SOME FIGHT LEFT IN 'IM.
NOT BAD FOR A GUY ON HIS LAST LEGS.
WHUMP
SPIDER-MAN, OVER HERE.
I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THIS AND THEN--
BROCK?!
NO! NOT NOW! GET THE HELL AWAY FROM ME!
I CAN'T HAVE MY POWERS CUTTING OUT AGAIN!
I MEAN IT, EDDIE! YOU'RE THE LAST THING I NEED RIGHT NOW!
REALLY? LIKE SOMEONE WATCHING YOUR BACK?
RETURNING YOUR STUFF? OR WEREN'T YOU WONDERING...
...HOW OSBORN'S MEN WERE KEEPING YOU IN "THE SHOT"?
MY CAMERA?!
AH. GOT IT.
FINE. YOU WANNA HELP? TAKE OUT THE GUNS. BULLSEYE'S MINE!

C'MON, SPIDER. IT'S GETTING LATE. WHAT SAY WE WRAP THIS UP?
GIMME A CLEAN TARGET, I'LL GIVE YOU A QUICK N' EASY DEATH. WHATCHA SAY?
WHRRR
I SAY...
CHOKE ON THIS!
WHAT? ARE YOU STUPID?
HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED ANYTHING ABOUT THROWING PROJECTILES AT--
GWOPP
WEBS AGAIN, HUH? WHATEVER.
SO I'LL KILL YOU WITH MY RIGHT HAND. WAS THAT WORTH IT?
I DUNNO...
...GUESS IT WAS JUST SOMETHING I HAD TO GET OFF MY CHEST.

OFF HIS--?
THE TRACKING CHIP.
YOO-HOO! BOYS! OVER HERE!
IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
OPEN FIRE!
NO!
BRATTA ATTTA
ATTTAAA
POK POK
POK POK
YEARGH!
BULLSEYE.

Moments Later.
THERE, THAT'S THE REST OF THEM.
NOW I THINK SOMEONE OWES ME AN APOLOGY.
BITE ME. (UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU'RE STILL DOING THAT.)
NOT ANYMORE. I'M ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS. I'M A HEALER NOW.
Unh...
I COULD HEAL YOU.
NO THANK YOU.
MY WEBBING'S DOING A NICE JOB CLOTTING THESE UP ALL BY ITS LONESOME.
GUESS YOU'RE USED TO DOING THINGS BY YOURSELF.
AND TO THINK OF ALL THE ANGER I WASTED ON PARKER, WHEN ALL THIS TIME...
...YOU WERE TAKING YOUR OWN PICTURES.
WHAT CAN I SAY? I NEEDED THE MONEY. WEBS DON'T GROW ON TREES...
...AND FIGHTING GUYS LIKE OSBORN IS STRICTLY A NON-PROFIT GIG.
I UNDERSTAND. LIKE ME, YOU HAVE A CALLING. YOU WANT OSBORN?
I KNOW WHERE HE IS RIGHT NOW. THE SAME PLACE HE'S TAKEN THE SYMBIOTE.
WHERE?!


The Oscorp Building.
HEY, KIDS. DADDY'S HOME.
MY GOD!
IT'S ABOUT DAMN TIME.
WHAT? THIS OLD THING? YOU SEE, I'M EXPECTING COMPANY...
...AND I THOUGHT I'D DRESS FOR THE OCCASION.
NOW WHO WANTS PRESENTS?
MAC? HAVE YOU BEEN A GOOD BOY? 'CAUSE I'VE GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR YOU.
BUT FIRST, YOU'VE GOTTA TAKE YOUR MEDICINE.
W-WHAT IS THAT?
LET'S JUST SAY, ONE DROP'LL CURE YA.
AND TWO?

TWO WOULD KILL EVERYBODY IN THE TRI-STATE AREA!
HERE'S THE FUN PART. THREE OR FOUR? THAT'S ALL YOU'LL NEED...
...TO WIPE OUT *ANTI-VENOM!*
YESSS!
GOOD BOY. NOW HERE, PUT THIS ON.
WHAT? THIS CAN'T BE!
YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO--
YES! AS YOUR SYMBIOTE HEALS ITSELF, IT WILL NEED TO BE PROTECTED.
AND THIS BATTLE SUIT'S WEAPON IS THE PERFECT DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR MY SUPER-VENOM.
I'M SSSCARED.
DO IT!
THIS IS INSANE. WITH HIS HISTORY, YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE HIM--
I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING. ALL THE PIECES ARE IN PLAY... INCLUDING THIS *"ANTI-VENOM."*
THE ONE ELEMENT I COULDN'T HAVE PLANNED FOR. BUT NOW, IF HE SHOULD INTERFERE, HE'LL FEEL THE STING OF MY...

...BRAND NEW SCORPION!
YESSS... BETTER SAY YOUR PRAYERSSS, BROCK.
'CAUSE MAC'S BACK!
To Be Concluded...

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #573

The Oscorp Building.
ACROSS THE HUDSON RIVER IN JERSEY CITY.
LILY, FOR THE LAST TIME. GO HOME.
NO. WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER, HARRY. WHERE YOU GO, I GO.
NOT THIS TIME. IT'S DIFFERENT. HE'S HERE.
I EVER TELL YOU WHY MY DAD BUILT THIS BRANCH OFF THE PALISADES?
SO HE'D HAVE A CLEAR VIEW OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE.
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?
DON'T ASK.
YOU! WHERE IS HE?
WHERE'S NORMAN OSBORN?
THIS WAY. YOUR FATHER'S BEEN EXPECTING YOU, SIR.
SECURITY
GOOD. I WOULDN'T WANT TO DISAPPOINT HIM.
HARRY, WAIT! HARRY!
ALL RIGHT! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU PLAYING AT?!
YOU BLEW UP MY PLACE! MY GIRLFRIEND COULD'VE BEEN KILLED!
I COULD'VE BEEN KILLED!
PLEASE, HARRY. GIRLFRIENDS? THEY'RE REPLACEABLE. AND DON'T ACT LIKE YOU HAVEN'T DIED BEFORE.
YOU SHOULD BE USED TO IT BY NOW. WE'RE OSBORNS. WE BOUNCE BACK.

NEW WAYS TO DIE PART SIX

WEAPONS OF SELF DESTRUCTION

DAN SLOTT	JOHN ROMITA JR.	KLAUS JANSON	DEAN WHITE	VC'S CORY PETIT	TOM BRENNAN	STEPHEN WACKER	TOM BREVOORT	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY
WRITER	PENCILS	INKS	COLORS	LETTERS	ASST. EDITOR	EDITOR	EXECUTIVE EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, SLOTT & WELLS SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

WHAT THE--?! YOU'RE IN COSTUME? AGAIN!
LOOK, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BE MORE SPECIFIC. LAST TIME YOU WERE UPSET I WAS WEARING THE MASK.
YOU'RE INSANE! HOW COULD YOU--HOW COULD ANY FATHER BE SO--? WHY THE COFFEE BEAN, DAD? WHEN I WAS FINALLY MAKING SOMETHING OF MYSELF--

I DID YOU A FAVOR, BOY. YOUR PLACE IS HERE, AT OSCORP. BY MY SIDE. YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S COMING. BUT I DO.
THE WORLD COULD BE OURS, SON. THE TWO OF US TOGETHER? WE'D BE INVINCIBLE. NO ONE COULD STOP US.
REATEST
REALLY? 'CAUSE OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD...

"...I CAN THINK OF SOMEBODY."

EDDIE, YOU'RE DOING IT AGAIN.

SORRY.

QUICK REMINDER. WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU SWING TOO CLOSE?

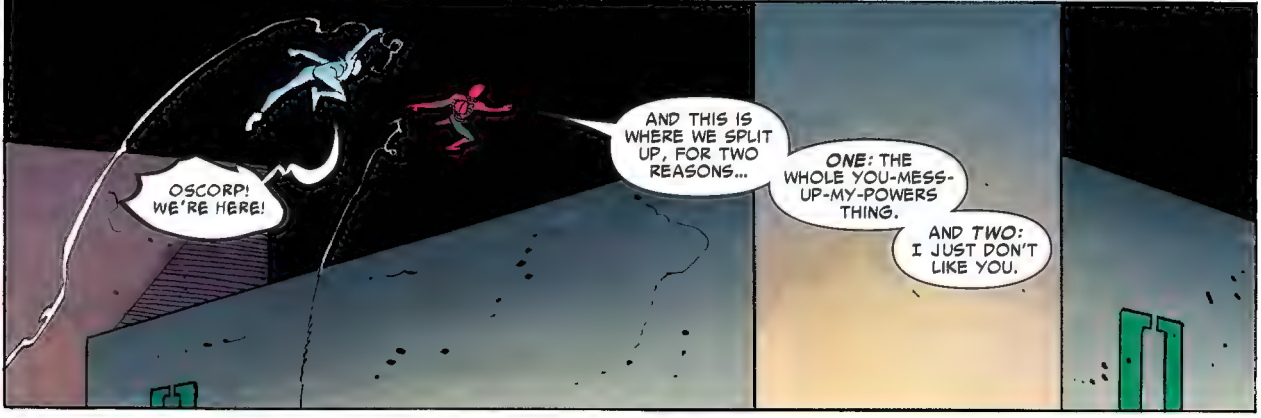
YOUR POWERS CUT OUT AND YOU COULD FALL TO YOUR DEATH.

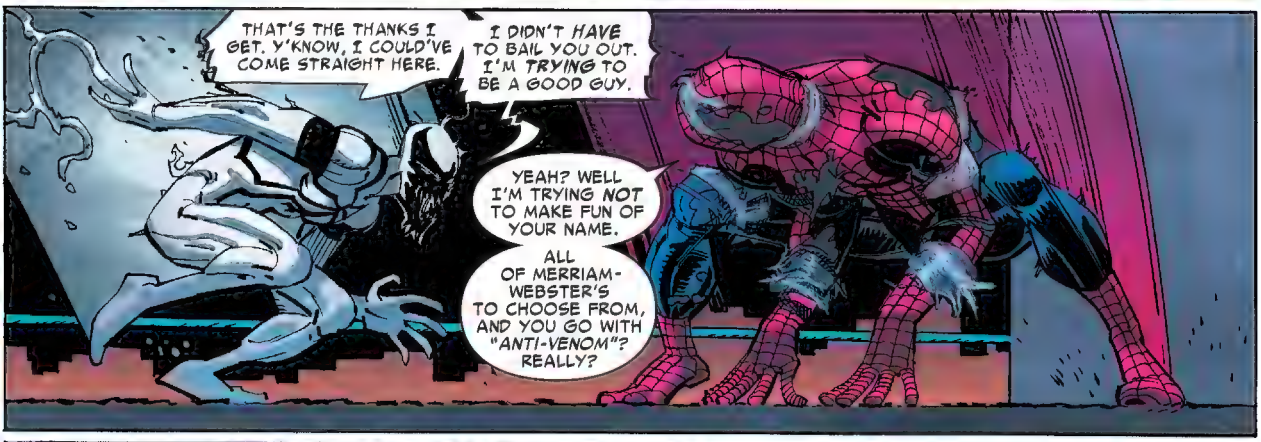
AND WE *DON'T* WANT THAT, DO WE?

...

NO.

GOOD. SO DON'T MAKE ME COME BACK THERE. BECAUSE...WELL... I CAN'T.


OSCORP! WE'RE HERE!
AND THIS IS WHERE WE SPLIT UP, FOR TWO REASONS...
ONE: THE WHOLE YOU-MESS-UP-MY-POWERS THING.
AND TWO: I JUST DON'T LIKE YOU.


THAT'S THE THANKS I GET. Y'KNOW, I COULD'VE COME STRAIGHT HERE.
I DIDN'T HAVE TO BAIL YOU OUT. I'M TRYING TO BE A GOOD GUY.
YEAH? WELL I'M TRYING NOT TO MAKE FUN OF YOUR NAME.
ALL OF MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S TO CHOOSE FROM, AND YOU GO WITH "ANTI-VENOM"? REALLY?

YES! VENOM IS A PLAGUE. AND IT IS MY CALLING TO ERADICATE IT.
I-I CAN SENSE ITS PRESENCE THIS WAY.
FINE. I'LL TAKE THIS SIDE. AND HERE'S HOPING WE NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.
GODSPEED. I'LL KEEP THEM DISTRACTED.
I'M COUNTING ON IT!

SPIDER-MAN? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU STILL GO ON ABOUT HIM.
ME?!
HARRY, I'VE BEEN RECORDING YOUR THERAPY SESSIONS FOR YEARS.
COUNTLESS HOURS OF "MY FATHER NEVER HAD TIME FOR ME. HE WAS TOO BUSY FIGHTING SPIDER-MAN."
WORLD'S GREATEST DAD

HOW DARE YOU--
YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU? NONE OF THIS HAS BEEN ABOUT SPIDER-MAN.
THIS IS ALL ABOUT YOU. YOU AND YOUR--one second. OSBORN HERE. WHAT IS IT?

IT'S BULLSEYE, BOSS. WE'RE PULLING OUT OF THE COFFEE SHOP. THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW, WE *HAD* SPIDER-MAN. DEAD TO THE WORLD.
BUT THEN THAT ANTI-VENOM GUY JUMPED US.
I WAS KINDA OUT OF IT, BUT I HEARD 'EM. THEY'RE COMING FOR YA. YOU AND GARGAN.
HELL, THEY MIGHT BE THERE NOW.
WAIT! WHAT DO YOU *MEAN* ALL ABOUT *ME?*
NOT NOW, BOY.
SO...THE BUG WANTS TO BRING THE FIGHT HERE? EXCELLENT...
"...I'LL BE SURE TO LET THE OTHERS KNOW TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR HIM."
KRUNK
HEY, WEB-HEAD! *OVER HERE!*

SPIKES
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST. IF YOU'RE SMART, YOU'LL TELL US WHERE WE CAN FIND ANTI-VENOM.
STAT! POW!
YESSS. TELL USSS AND MAYBE WE'LL GO EASSSY ON YOU.
I- I CAN DO BETTER...
...I CAN SHOW YOU.
IT'S HIM, BROCK!
GARGAN! DO SOMETHING!
SPLOP

WITH PLEASURE. C'MON, BROCK. LEMME SHOW YA MY NEW TOYSSS!
YOUR OLD SCORPION TRICKS WON'T HELP YOU, GARGAN. NOTHING WILL. I HAVE RIGHT ON MY SIDE!
OSBORN. THIS IS CHEN, DO YOU COPY? IT WASN'T SPIDER-MAN. IT WAS BROCK IN DISGUISE.
THE REAL WALL-CRAWLER'S STILL OUT THERE.
THEN WHERE IS HE, SONGBIRD? THE TRACKERS I BUILT, WHAT DO THEY SAY?
HOLD IT! HOW IS ALL THIS ABOUT ME? I-IS THAT WHAT I THINK IT IS?
SHUT UP, BOY! I'M BUSY!
WAIT. THEN THAT MEANS--
Y'KNOW WHAT? FINE. DON'T LISTEN TO ME.

LET HIM GO!
HEY!
AHKK!

HANDS OFF, GOBLIN! HE'S NOT *YOURS* ANYMORE. YOU GOT THAT?!
STOP IT! I CAN FIGHT MY *OWN* BATTLES!
I NEVER ASKED FOR *YOUR* HELP! I NEVER ASKED FOR *ANY OF THIS!*
YES! THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
TEKK
WHAT'D YOU JUST--? OH, BOY...
"...MYSTERY BUTTONS ARE NEVER A GOOD THING."
WSHH
VRMMMM

SMAK
NO!
I'M SO SICK OF YOU! THE TWO OF YOU!
IT NEVER ENDS! MY WHOLE LIFE! CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE AS YOU--
HARRY!
GET OUT OF THE --AHH!
SRASH
Unh–
RUNK
BUT THAT'S JUST IT, HARRY.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE IN THE MIDDLE, SON.
CHOOSE A SIDE. CLAIM YOUR DESTINY!
YOU'RE SO CLOSE! I KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN UP TO, HARRY.
I'VE SEEN WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF. AND YOU COULD BE MORE...

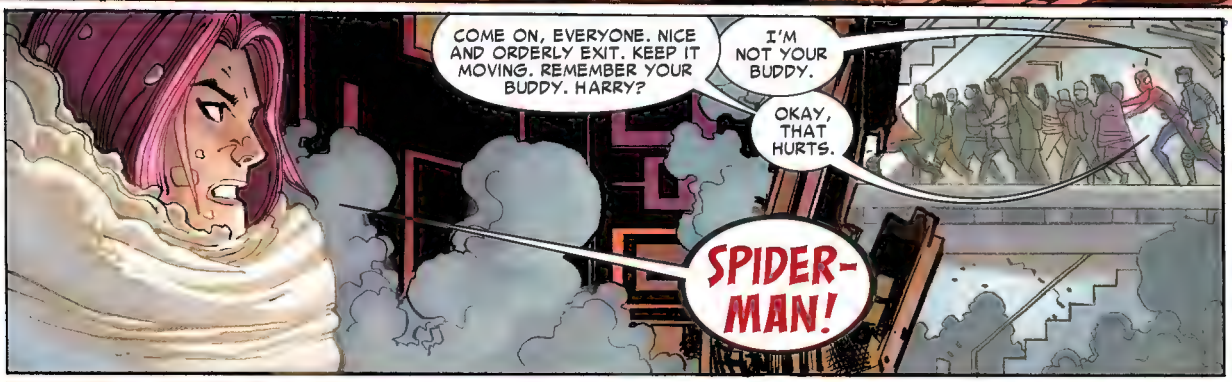
...YOU COULD BE SO MUCH MORE!
CHOOM
POOM
HARRY? WHAT DOES HE MEAN?
I DON'T KNOW! I DON'T--
C'MON, HARRY. SECRET MEETINGS ON ROOFTOPS AND IN DINERS...
THE SECRET EXPERIMENTS...
SO MANY SECRETS AND LIES. COME ON! BE A MAN! STEP INTO THE LIGHT!
ENOUGH!
YOU LIKE HEAD GAMES, GOBLIN?!
HERE!
HOW DID YOU--?!

TRY THIS ONE!
STOP, YOU FOOL! YOU'RE THROWING OFF THE GLIDER! WE'RE GOING TO--
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WE"?!
KUNSH
GAHH!
THIS GETTING THROUGH TO YOU, GOBLIN?!
HARRY'S OFF LIMITS! SAY IT!
NEVER! HE'S MINE! HE'S--
SKRAKK
GYAHH!
STOP IT! YOU'RE CAVING IN MY SKULL! YOU'RE GONNA KILL ME!
HOW, OSBORN?! TELL ME HOW?! YOU CAN'T STAY DEAD!
SO WHY SHOULD I HOLD BACK?!!
WHY?!
KAKK

DAD?
OH MY.
I-I WOULD'VE KEPT GOING. I SWEAR TO GOD...
BUT SUDDENLY THERE WERE THESE PEOPLE...
WALL AFTER WALL OF PEOPLE.
OSBORN! YOU SICK SON OF A--
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING HERE?!
ASKING...THE WRONG OSBORN. TELL HIM, HARRY. HUMAN TESTING.
THE... PROMETHEAN TRIALS. ALL OF THIS. THIS...
NO. IT WASN'T SUPPOSE TO...
HARRY?
WELL, YOU DID IT, BOY. I'M FINALLY PROUD OF YOU.

I SAID ENOUGH!
WAKK
GNUH...
N-NO... THAT'S FOR ME TO SAY...
CLICK
AGAIN WITH THE STUPID BELT!
I'M SO TAKING THAT AWAY FROM YOU. I DON'T CARE IF YOUR PANTS FALL DOWN AND THE WHOLE WORLD SEES YOUR LITTLE GOBLIN...
OH, WHAT NOW?
RRRMMMM
FEEL THAT? THE WHOLE COMPLEX IS SHAKING!
OH NO! HARRY!
WE BETTER CLEAR THE AREA!
SELF-DESTRUCT SEQUENCE. YOUR MOVE, BUG.
DO YOU DRAG OUT NORMAN OSBORN, BELOVED LEADER OF THE THUNDERBOLTS...
...SOMEONE YOU'VE BEATEN AND DRESSED UP IN A GREEN GOBLIN SUIT...AGAIN...
OR FREE A ROOM FULL OF HUMAN GUINEA PIGS?
YOU-YOU-YOU SUCK!
WITTY AS EVER. SIX MINUTES AND COUNTING.

SONGBIRD?
I KNOW, CHEN. THE PLACE IS FALLING APART!
SO, BROCK; THISSS HOW IT GOESSS DOWN?
THE TWO OF USSS AT IT 'TIL THE BITTER END?!
YES! THE SICKNESS IN YOU MUST DIE!
AND IF THAT MEANS LOSING THE PATIENT? MYSELF? ALL OF US? SO BE IT!


COME ON, EVERYONE. NICE AND ORDERLY EXIT. KEEP IT MOVING. REMEMBER YOUR BUDDY. HARRY?
I'M NOT YOUR BUDDY.
OKAY, THAT HURTS.
SPIDER-MAN!

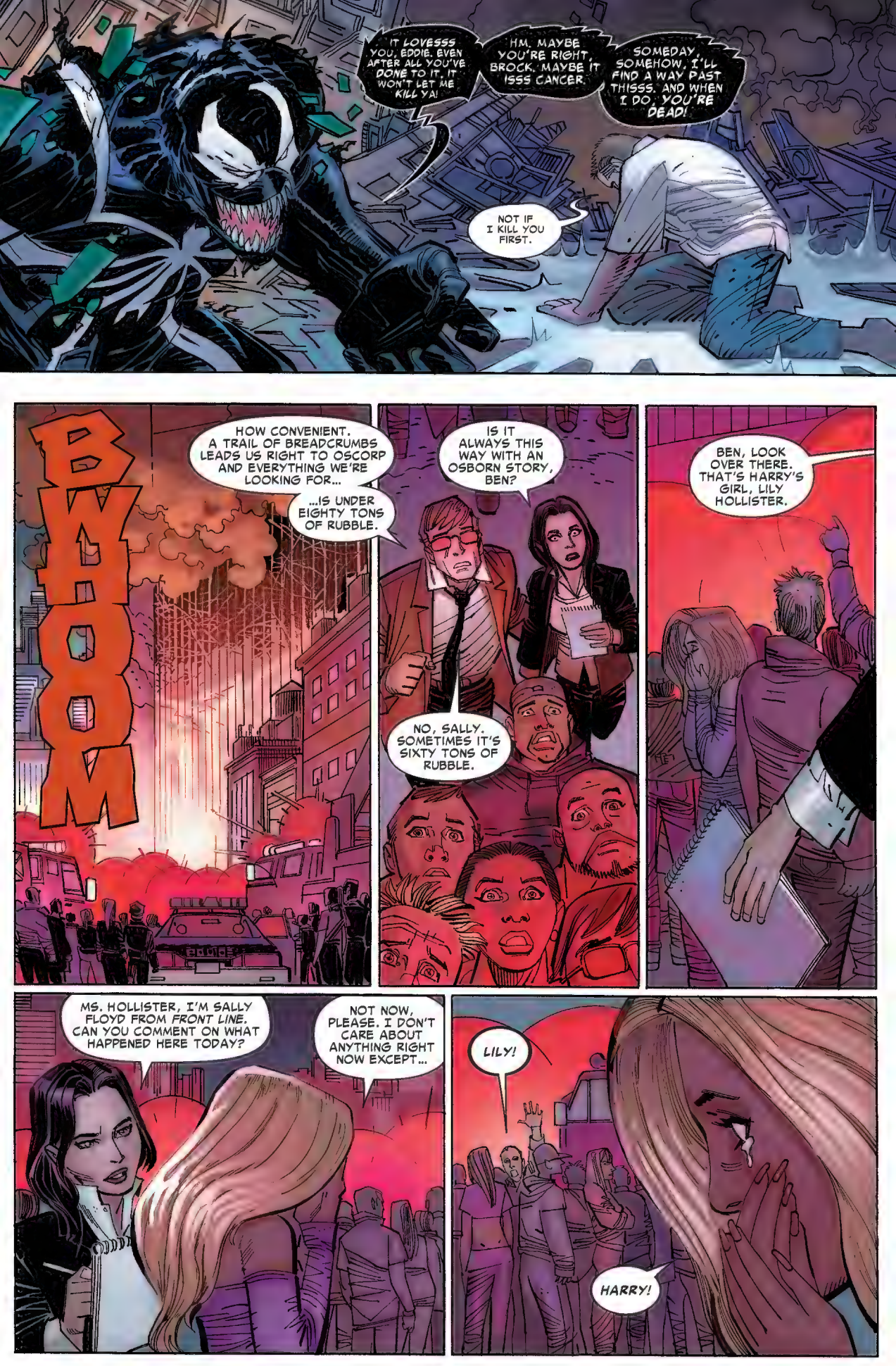
HEY, SONGBIRD AND RADIOACTIVE MAN.
LONG TIME, NO TRY-TO-LOCK-ME-UP-FOR-A-CRIME-I-DIDN'T-COMMIT?
CAN YOU SPARE US AND JUST GET US OUT OF HERE.

TECHNICALLY, GETTING YOU OUT OF HERE *IS* SPARING YOU.
NOW PLEASE, *DON'T* MAKE ME REGRET THIS...

...BY DOING SOMETHING STUPID. LIKE TRYING TO ARREST ME...
...WHILE I'M GETTING SICK PEOPLE OUT OF A BUILDING BEFORE IT BLOWS UP.
HE HAS A POINT
ALL RIGHT. BUT WHAT DO WE DO...
...ABOUT THEM?
RWARR!!
HEY, THEY'RE BIG BOYS. THEY CAN TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES. RIGHT NOW...
...I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND LESS FORTUNATE.
THOUGH I GOTTA ASK. WAS THAT VENOM IN A SCORPION SUIT?
YES.
THIS WAY. PLEASE STAY TOGETHER.
WOW. VEN-ORPION.
THAT'S LIKE THE TURDUCKEN OF SUPER-VILLAINS.

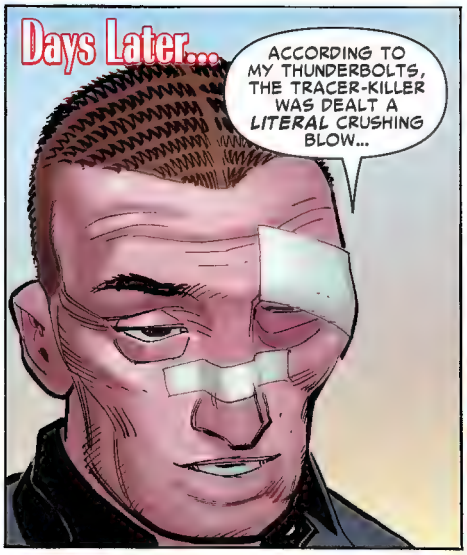
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY, GARGAN.
ALL IT'D TAKE IS ONE TOUCH, AND YOU'D BE FREE! ONE TOUCH AND IT'D ALL BE OVER!
FUNNY.
I WASSS THINKING THE SSSAME THING!
YEARGHH!
FWUTCH
STINGSSS DON'T IT, BROCK?!
SSSO WORRIED ABOUT SSSAVING ME! CURING ME! HEALING ME!
WELL, EDDIE, HEAL THYSELF! HA HA!
MY SUIT! THE ANTI-VENOM!

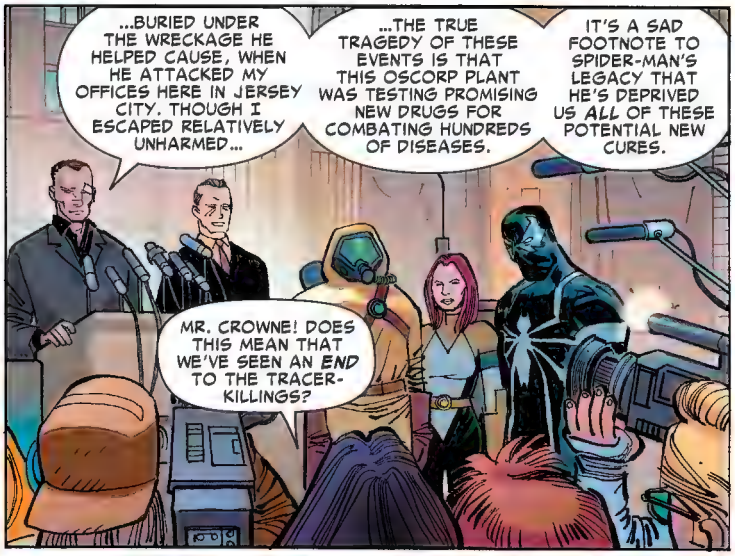
YESSS, YOUR SELF-RIGHTEOUSSS GIFT FROM ON HIGH...
...AND ALL IT TOOK WASSS ONE WHIP OF OUR TAIL TO DROWN IT IN POISON.
AND NOW, WITH THISSS STING, YOU'LL JOIN IT IN--
WHAT?! WHAT'RE WE DOING?!
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?! WE'RE KILLING BROCK!
NO! I DON'T CARE HOW LONG HE WASSS WITH YOU!
YOU'RE MINE NOW! YOU'RE PART OF ME! WE ARE VENOM!
STOP HOLDING ME BACK! STOP FIGHTING ME!
YOU STUPID, STUPID THING! HE REJECTED YOU! HE DOESN'T WANT YOU!
TING
PANG
TENK
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU WANT! WHAT YOU FEEL!
I HATE HIM! HOW CAN YOU--?
RWARRRR

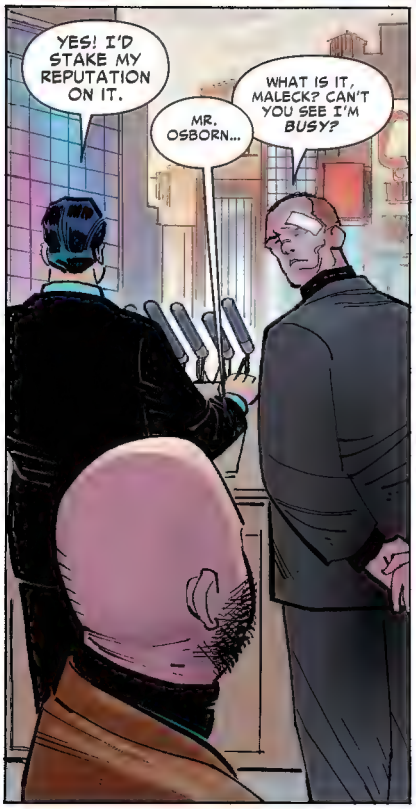

IT LOVESSS YOU, EDDIE. EVEN AFTER ALL YOU'VE DONE TO IT, IT WON'T LET ME KILL YA!
HM. MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, BROCK. MAYBE IT ISSS CANCER.
SOMEDAY, SOMEHOW, I'LL FIND A WAY PAST THISSS. AND WHEN I DO, YOU'RE DEAD!
NOT IF I KILL YOU FIRST.
BWOOM
HOW CONVENIENT. A TRAIL OF BREADCRUMBS LEADS US RIGHT TO OSCORP AND EVERYTHING WE'RE LOOKING FOR...
...IS UNDER EIGHTY TONS OF RUBBLE.
IS IT ALWAYS THIS WAY WITH AN OSBORN STORY, BEN?
NO, SALLY. SOMETIMES IT'S SIXTY TONS OF RUBBLE.
BEN, LOOK OVER THERE. THAT'S HARRY'S GIRL, LILY HOLLISTER.
MS. HOLLISTER, I'M SALLY FLOYD FROM FRONT LINE. CAN YOU COMMENT ON WHAT HAPPENED HERE TODAY?
NOT NOW, PLEASE. I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING RIGHT NOW EXCEPT...
LILY!
HARRY!

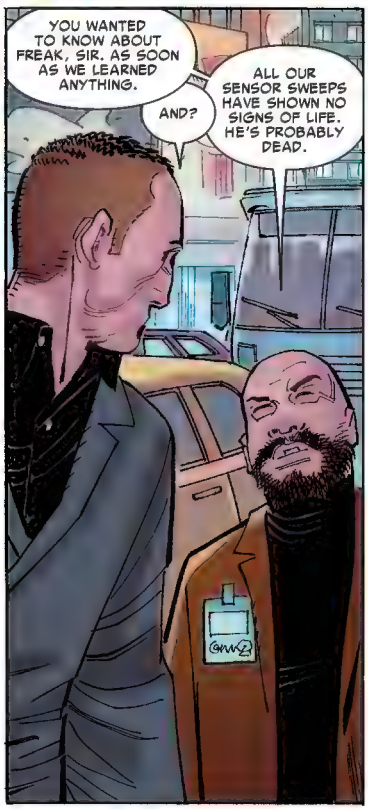
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'M FINE.
I'M SURE HE DID. IN FACT...
WHAT ABOUT YOUR DAD? DID HE MAKE IT OUT?
...HE WAS A FEW STEPS AHEAD OF ME THE ENTIRE TIME.
IT'S A SHAME WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU BACK THERE, SPIDEY.
YOU MEAN TO OUR FRIENDS HERE.
NO, I MEAN TO YOU. THAT WAY YOU WERE CRUSHED UNDER ALL THAT FALLING DEBRIS. HORRIBLE.
IT'LL PROBABLY TAKE WEEKS TO FIND YOUR BODY AND DIG YOU OUT.
KIT'S OKAY. WE KNOW SOMEWHERE YOU CAN GO. SOMEWHERE SAFE!
ARE YOU SAYING...?
I'M SAYING YOU SHOULD PROBABLY TAKE OFF...
...WHILE MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO'VE SEEN YOU ONLY SPEAK MANDARIN.
I'M NOT GOING INTO HIDING, MEL.
ALL RIGHT. BUT CAN YOU STAY OUT OF THE NEWS FOR A FEW DAYS?
OR UNTIL WE SAVE THE WORLD. WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

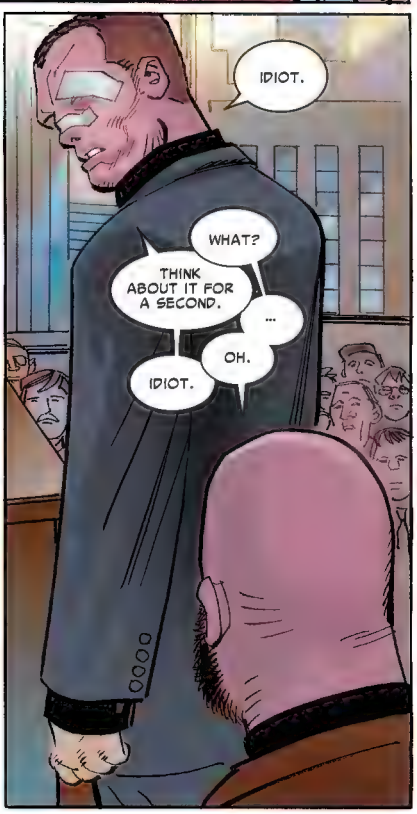
THUNDERBOLTS. GOTTA LOVE 'EM.
IT'S THE LAW.
MAN, I REALLY GOTTA FIND OUT WHO DOES THEIR P.R. ...

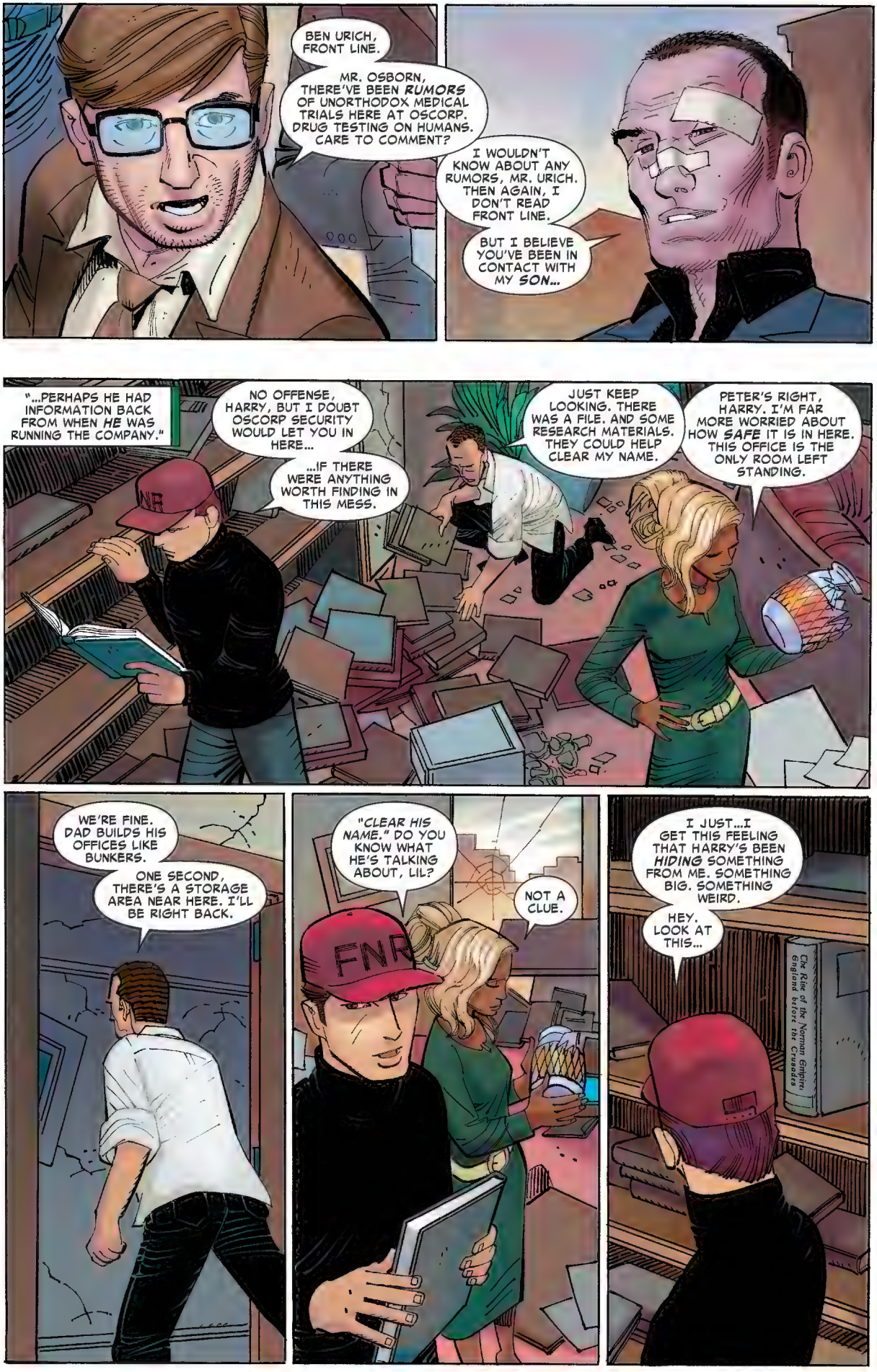

Days Later...
ACCORDING TO MY THUNDERBOLTS, THE TRACER-KILLER WAS DEALT A *LITERAL* CRUSHING BLOW...

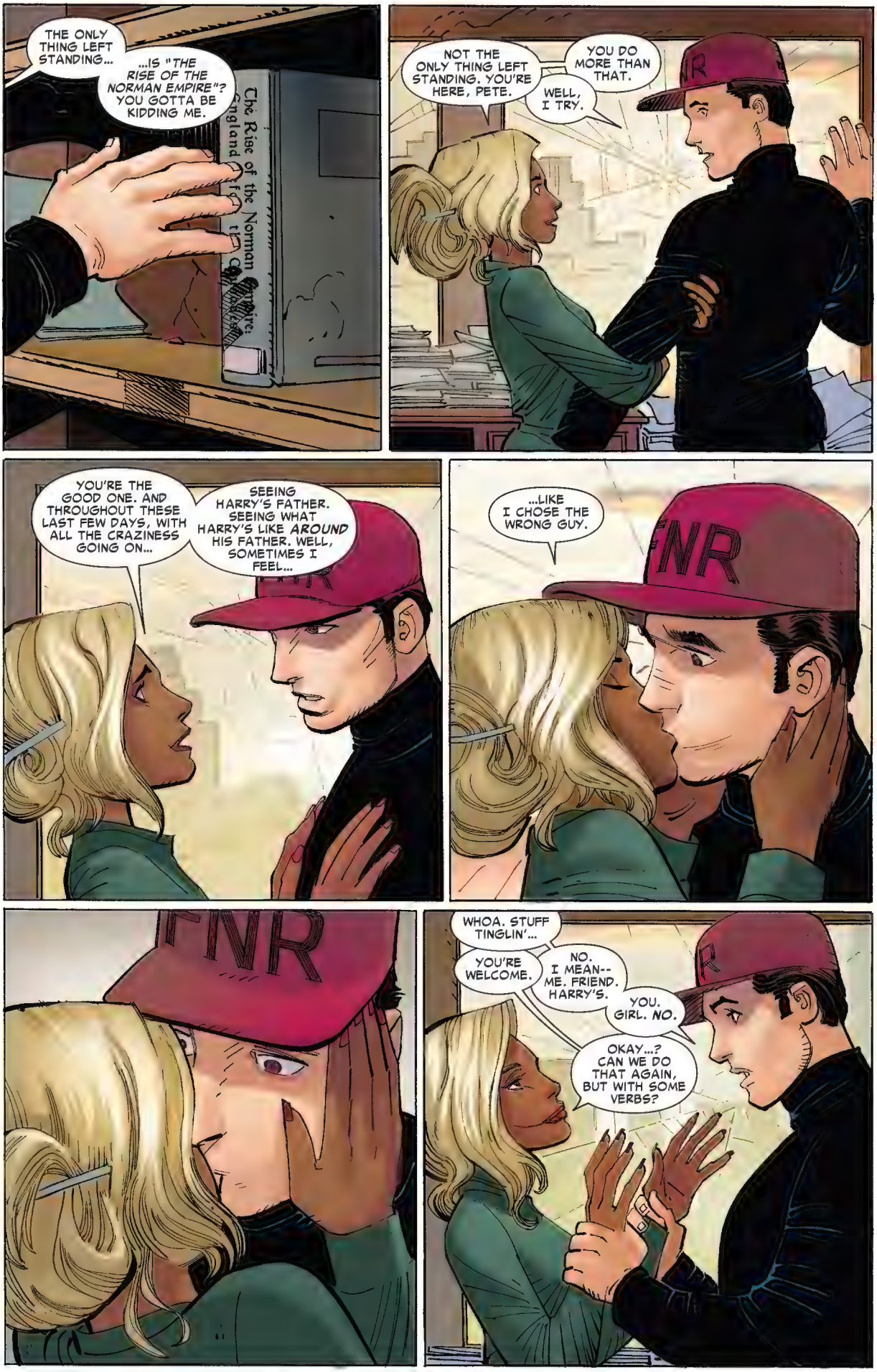

...BURIED UNDER THE WRECKAGE HE HELPED CAUSE, WHEN HE ATTACKED MY OFFICES HERE IN JERSEY CITY. THOUGH I ESCAPED RELATIVELY UNHARMED...
...THE TRUE TRAGEDY OF THESE EVENTS IS THAT THIS OSCORP PLANT WAS TESTING PROMISING NEW DRUGS FOR COMBATING HUNDREDS OF DISEASES.
IT'S A SAD FOOTNOTE TO SPIDER-MAN'S LEGACY THAT HE'S DEPRIVED US *ALL* OF THESE POTENTIAL NEW CURES.
MR. CROWNE! DOES THIS MEAN THAT WE'VE SEEN AN *END* TO THE TRACER-KILLINGS?


YES! I'D STAKE MY REPUTATION ON IT.
MR. OSBORN...
WHAT IS IT, MALECK? CAN'T YOU SEE I'M *BUSY?*


YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT FREAK, SIR. AS SOON AS WE LEARNED ANYTHING.
AND?
ALL OUR SENSOR SWEEPS HAVE SHOWN NO SIGNS OF LIFE. HE'S PROBABLY DEAD.

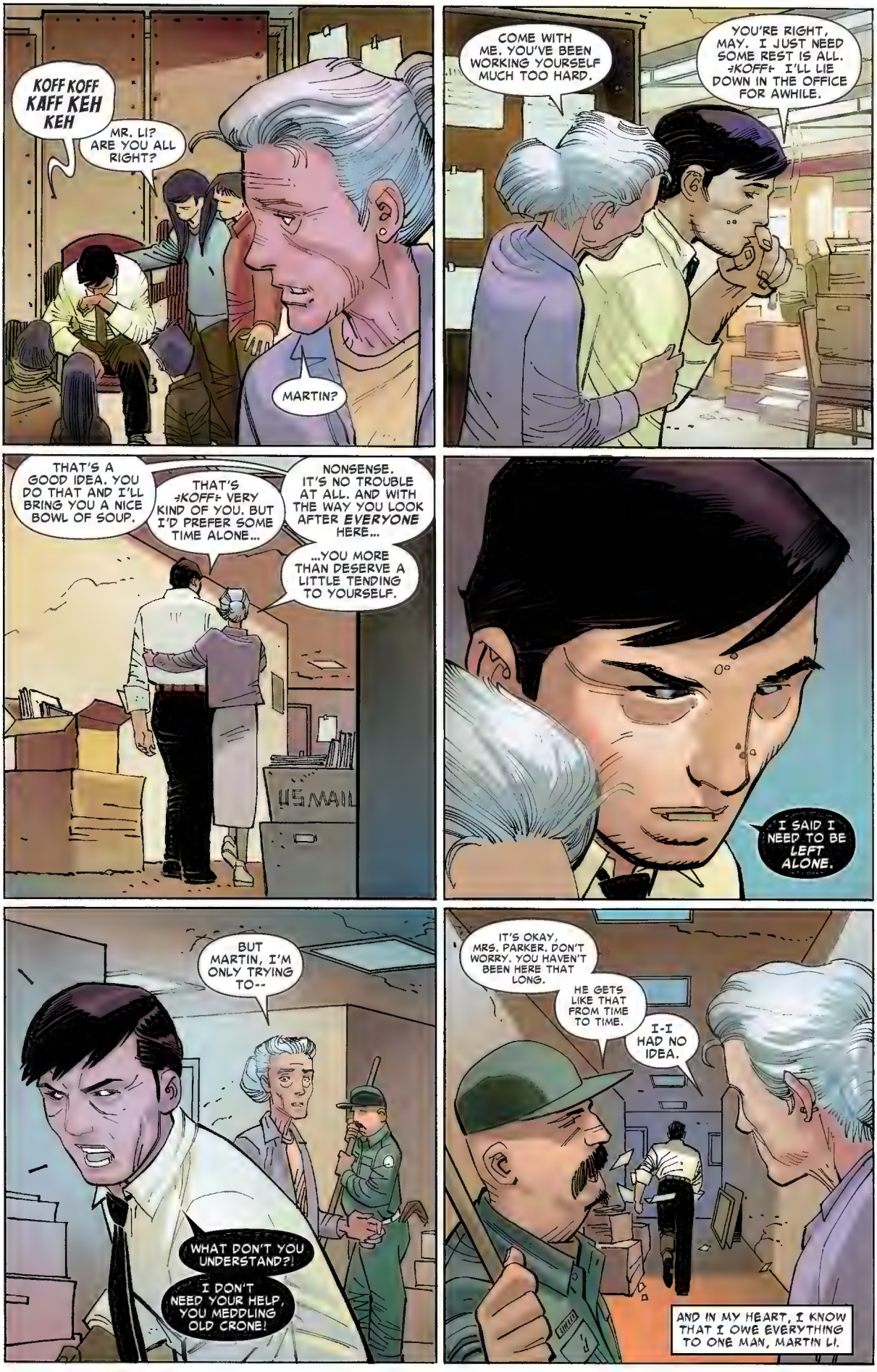

IDIOT.
WHAT?
THINK ABOUT IT FOR A SECOND.
...
OH.
IDIOT.


BEN URICH, FRONT LINE.
MR. OSBORN, THERE'VE BEEN *RUMORS* OF UNORTHODOX MEDICAL TRIALS HERE AT OSCORP. DRUG TESTING ON HUMANS. CARE TO COMMENT?
I WOULDN'T KNOW ABOUT ANY RUMORS, MR. URICH. THEN AGAIN, I DON'T READ FRONT LINE.
BUT I BELIEVE YOU'VE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MY *SON*...
"...PERHAPS HE HAD INFORMATION BACK FROM WHEN *HE* WAS RUNNING THE COMPANY."
NO OFFENSE, HARRY, BUT I DOUBT OSCORP SECURITY WOULD LET YOU IN HERE...
...IF THERE WERE ANYTHING WORTH FINDING IN THIS MESS.
JUST KEEP LOOKING. THERE WAS A FILE. AND SOME RESEARCH MATERIALS. THEY COULD HELP CLEAR MY NAME.
PETER'S RIGHT, HARRY. I'M FAR MORE WORRIED ABOUT HOW *SAFE* IT IS IN HERE. THIS OFFICE IS THE ONLY ROOM LEFT STANDING.
WE'RE FINE. DAD BUILDS HIS OFFICES LIKE BUNKERS.
ONE SECOND, THERE'S A STORAGE AREA NEAR HERE. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
"*CLEAR HIS NAME.*" DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT, LIL?
NOT A CLUE.
I JUST...I GET THIS FEELING THAT HARRY'S BEEN *HIDING* SOMETHING FROM ME. SOMETHING BIG. SOMETHING WEIRD.
HEY. LOOK AT THIS...
Ch: Rise of the Norman Empire
England before the Crusades


THE ONLY THING LEFT STANDING...
...IS "THE RISE OF THE NORMAN EMPIRE"? YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.
The Rise of the Norman Empire: England fr
NOT THE ONLY THING LEFT STANDING. YOU'RE HERE, PETE.
YOU DO MORE THAN THAT.
WELL, I TRY.
YOU'RE THE GOOD ONE. AND THROUGHOUT THESE LAST FEW DAYS, WITH ALL THE CRAZINESS GOING ON...
SEEING HARRY'S FATHER. SEEING WHAT HARRY'S LIKE AROUND HIS FATHER. WELL, SOMETIMES I FEEL...
...LIKE I CHOSE THE WRONG GUY.
WHOA. STUFF TINGLIN'...
YOU'RE WELCOME.
NO. I MEAN-- ME. FRIEND. HARRY'S.
YOU. GIRL. NO.
OKAY...? CAN WE DO THAT AGAIN, BUT WITH SOME VERBS?

GOTCHA!
WHAT?
THE FILE. I FOUND THE FILE I WAS LOOKING FOR.
YES. EXACTLY. THE THING YOU WERE LOOKING FOR. WAY TO GO.
SO, HARRY, ABOUT THIS FILE...?
I'M SORRY, PETE. NOT NOW. I'M SURE YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR KEEPING SECRETS.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA. AND I MEAN THAT ON THREE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LEVELS.
LOOK, I PROMISE WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT. SOON. AND WHEN WE DO, I'M GONNA NEED YOUR HELP WITH SOMETHING.
WHY ME?
BECAUSE IN THE WHOLE WORLD, PETE, YOU'RE THE ONE GUY I TRUST. CAN I COUNT ON YOU?
ALWAYS.
OKAY THEN. WE'RE GOOD TO GO.

SO, WHAT'S MY STORY?
I WAS THE DYING MAN WHO FOUND A NEW REASON TO LIVE...
...FRIENDS AMONG STRANGERS, AND A HOME WITH THE HOMELESS.
THE F.E.A.S.T. CENTER REOPENING TOMORROW
DO ANY OF YOU UNDERSTAND?
IF JUST ONE OF YOU WILL TESTIFY, WE CAN BRING CHARGES AGAINST OSCORP. ANYONE?
SALLY, MAYBE WE SHOULD GET MR. LI IN HERE.
THEY UNDERSTAND YOU, BEN. THEY ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THEY'RE HERE ILLEGALLY...
...AND NONE OF THEM WANT TO BE SENT...
...BACK HOME? BRANT? YOU'RE TAKING OFF? ARE YOU INSANE?
THIS IS THE STORY OF THE CENTURY. FOR FRONT LINE OR THE DB. AND YOU'RE JUST GOING TO WALK AWAY?
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU, FLOYD? I'M NOT COVERING THAT.
I WAS HERE TO REPORT ON THE F.E.A.S.T. SHELTER "MIRACLES." AND THAT STORY'S OVER.
PEOPLE ARE GETTING SICK AGAIN, RELAPSING AT AN ALARMING RATE.
LIKE DEXTER BENNETT SAID, IT'S ALL JUST A LOAD OF BUNK. AND FOR A MINUTE I ALMOST BOUGHT IT.
I ALMOST BELIEVED MIRACLES COULD HAPPEN.
MR. LI! YOU WANNA PLAY?
MAYBE LATER, LUKAS. *KOFF* I'M-I'M A LITTLE TIRED RIGHT NOW.


KOFF KOFF KAFF KEH KEH
MR. LI? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
MARTIN?
COME WITH ME. YOU'VE BEEN WORKING YOURSELF MUCH TOO HARD.
YOU'RE RIGHT, MAY. I JUST NEED SOME REST IS ALL. *KOFF* I'LL LIE DOWN IN THE OFFICE FOR AWHILE.
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. YOU DO THAT AND I'LL BRING YOU A NICE BOWL OF SOUP.
THAT'S *KOFF* VERY KIND OF YOU. BUT I'D PREFER SOME TIME ALONE...
NONSENSE. IT'S NO TROUBLE AT ALL. AND WITH THE WAY YOU LOOK AFTER *EVERYONE* HERE...
...YOU MORE THAN DESERVE A LITTLE TENDING TO YOURSELF.
US MAIL
I SAID I NEED TO BE *LEFT ALONE.*
BUT MARTIN, I'M ONLY TRYING TO--
WHAT DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?!
I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP, YOU MEDDLING OLD CRONE!
IT'S OKAY, MRS. PARKER. DON'T WORRY. YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HERE THAT LONG.
HE GETS LIKE THAT FROM TIME TO TIME.
I-I HAD NO IDEA.
AND IN MY HEART, I KNOW THAT I OWE EVERYTHING TO ONE MAN, MARTIN LI.

HE SHOWED ME A SIDE OF HUMANITY I'D LONG FORGOTTEN.
I KNOW THERE'S SO MUCH MORE I COULD LEARN FROM HIM.
REOPENING TOMO
BUT I CAN'T GO BACK.
WANTED
DEAD OR ALIV
I SIDED WITH SPIDER-MAN. I FOUGHT THE THUNDERBOLTS--GOVERNMENT AGENTS.
THAT MAKES ME A FUGITIVE. A WANTED MAN. BUT NO MATTER...
ALIVE
THIS CITY HAS A SICKNESS. I CAN SEE IT ALL AROUND ME.
IT PREYS ON THE POOR, THE INFIRM, ALL THOSE WHO ARE TOO WEAK TO FEND FOR THEMSELVES.
AND I'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE CURE.
FROM NOW ON, I AM THE ANTI-VENOM.
The End.

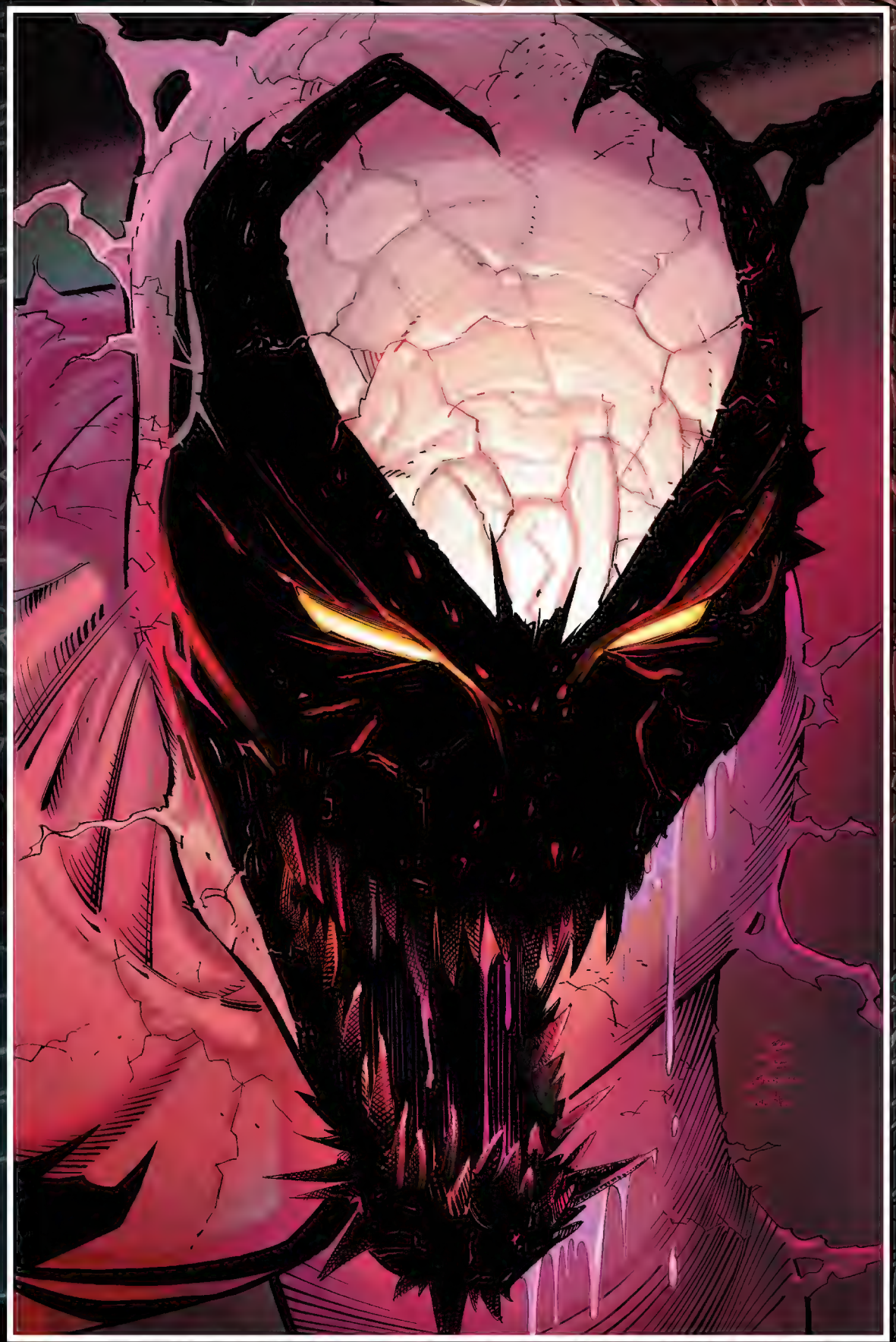
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #568 VARIANT BY JOHN ROMITA

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #568 VARIANT BY ALEX ROSS

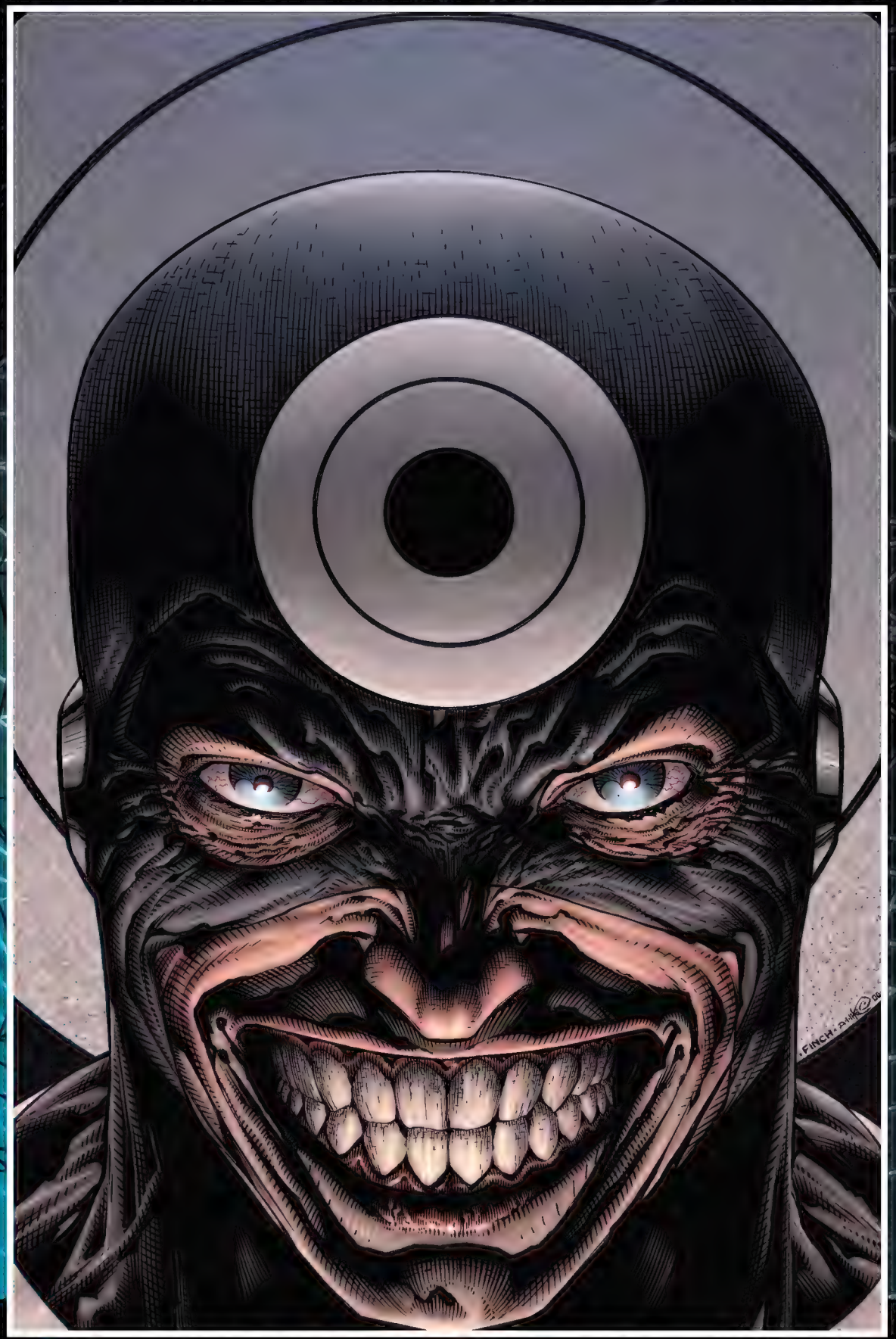
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #568 DYNAMIC FORCES VARIANT
BY ALEX ROSS

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #569 VARIANT
BY ADI GRANOV

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #570 VARIANT BY LUKE ROSS

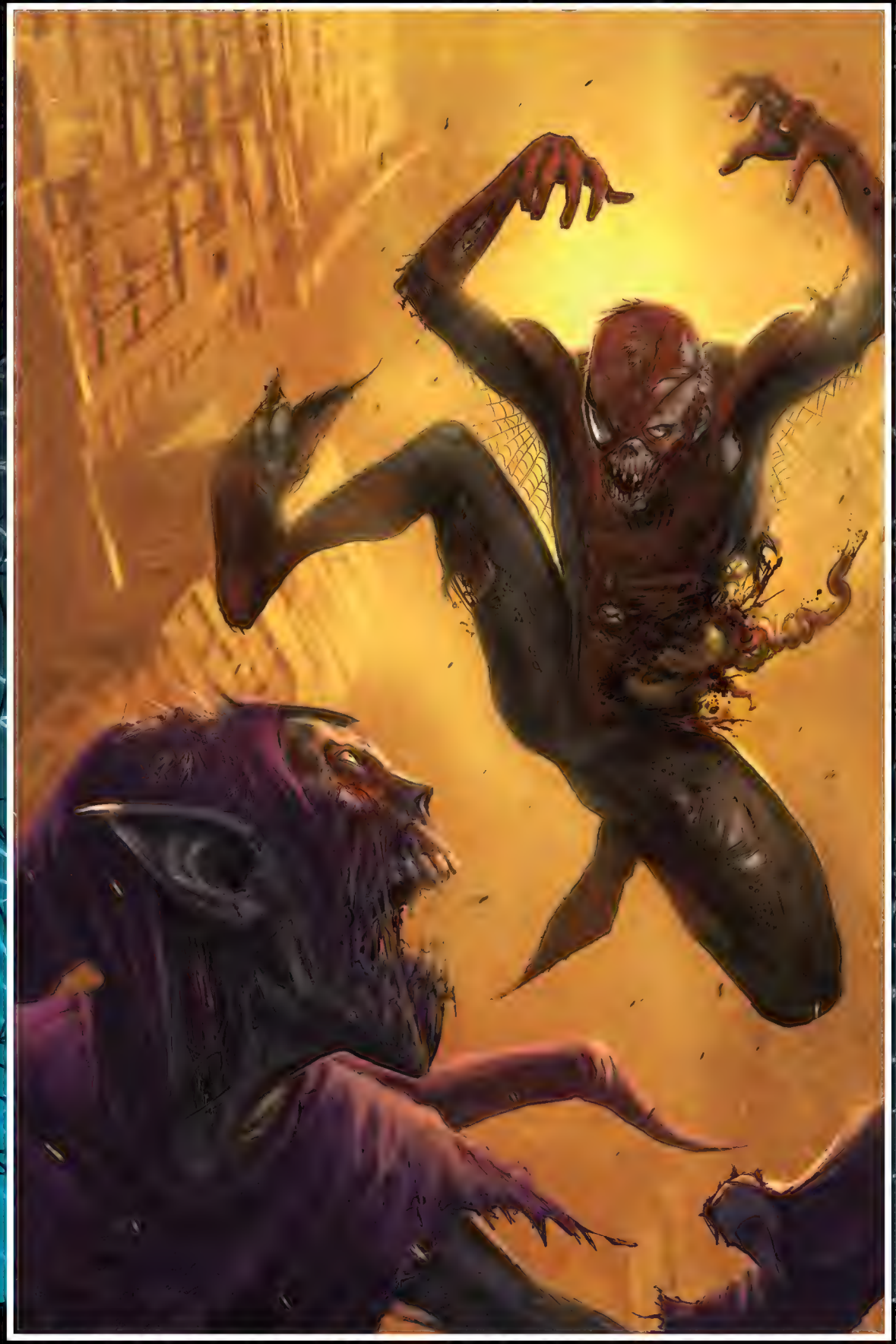


AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #571 VARIANT BY JOHN ROMITA JR.



AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #572 VARIANT BY DAVID FINCH

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #573 VARIANT BY KEVIN MAGUIRE



AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #573 ZOMBIE VARIANT
BY MARKO DJURDJEVIC

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
INSIDE BRAND NEW DAY
WITH JOHN ROMITA JR. AND DAN SLOTT
PLUS: A LOOK BACK WITH JOHN ROMITA SR.!

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN BRAND NEW DAY

THE AMAZING RETURN OF JOHN ROMITA JR.!

By Dugan Trodglen

The Modern Master Of Spider-Man Art Comes Back With "NEW WAYS TO DIE"

Although he would scoff at the very idea, John Romita Jr.'s work with Spider-Man has become nearly as character-defining as his famous father's. He's been drawing the character on and off for nearly thirty years since his nondescript art chores on a 6-page backup in an *Amazing Spider-Man Annual*. He was last on *ASM* alongside J. Michael Straczynski at the beginning of the writer's seminal run, including *ASM* #36, the classic issue featuring Spider-Man's reaction to the September 11 attack on New York City. Despite acclaimed work since then on big event books like *Wolverine* ("Enemy of the State" with Mark Millar), Neil Gaiman's new take on the *Eternals*, and *World War Hulk*, fans have been chomping at the bit for him to get back to Spider-Man. And so has John!

Ever since seeing his father draw Spider-Man decades ago, John has closely identified with the character and loves to draw Spidey above all else. Now at last he is back on *Amazing Spider-Man* and drawing a major chapter in the Brand New Day era of Spider-Man, the "New Ways To Die" arc that is being written by Dan Slott. *Marvel Spotlight* caught up with the ever-busy John to talk about Spider-Man, then and now.

FIRST APPEARANCE OF JRJR: John's first published art appeared in a six-page backup story in 1978's *Amazing Spider-Man Annual #11*.

SPOTLIGHT: Let's start by talking about your father. We know you idolize him, and rightfully so. What made his work on Spider-Man so essential?

JRJr: He made the book believable. It was realistic as opposed to the stylizing of Steve Ditko. Stan was always preaching that you have to balance the fantasy and the realism so well that the reader desires both. Even if the realism is at, say, twenty percent, you can make that realism so good that it worked and still created a balance. And Stan provided a lot of melodrama in the book and my father totally brought that out. He still does. He could do it again in a second if he had the ambition to come back.

He made the realism so beautiful and so melodic that when you saw *Spider-Man* or *Daredevil* or whatever he was working on, it stuck out because you were in a real world. There was a real city; there were people on the street wearing clothes that look like real clothes; there was traffic in the background. It helped the fantasy aspects really stand out as fantasy. That's what separated him from everyone else. I call him the prototypical 2-way player, to use a basketball analogy. He can do it all. He's not the greatest offensive player in the sport, or the greatest defensive player, but he is the most important player on the court because he still does both really, really well.

SPOTLIGHT: Of that which you described, what have you specifically applied to your work on Spider-Man?

JRJr: Everything. He just sets the example. I don't know if he ever expressed in words to me what I just described but I understood it. I saw the realism, the accuracy — and the amount of work he put into the accuracy. You don't cheat on storytelling or on details and I think that set me up for what I expect out of myself.

SPOTLIGHT: Was his run on the book part of the reason you became closely identified with the character as well?

JRJr: Absolutely. I definitely had an affinity. I grew up with it watching my dad. And the fact that he was a kid from Queens, and that's what I was too, it didn't hurt. There was so much as an impressionable kid that stuck with me. It's like when you see a movie as a kid and it captures you and you think it's the greatest thing in the world. Then you watch it on the classic movie channel and you can see the cheesy special effects. You can look back on the old issues of *Amazing Spider-Man* and see the lousy printing or the faded colors. But it remains a priceless part of your childhood.

"HE COULD DO IT AGAIN IN A SECOND IF HE HAD THE AMBITION TO COME BACK."

– ROMITA JR. ON THE TALENTS OF HIS DAD.

SORRY, JUGGY-- NO CAN DO!
BESIDES, MY NAME'S NOT "LITTLE MAN"!
IT'S SPIDER-MAN ...AS IN "THE AMAZING--!"
I'VE HEARD OF YOU.
THAT'S NICE... YOU, I'VE NEVER HEARD OF!
BUT, "THE BIGGER THEY ARE"...ETCETERA!
SO =UNGH= C'MON! =UNGH= FALL DOWN!

POWER AND MASS: Spidey's battle with Juggernaut in *ASM #229* was a breakthrough moment in JRJR's art career.

CAPTURING THE SPIDER: Elements of JRJR's amazing ability at capturing Peter Parker's spidery essence are evident in this panel from *ASM (Vol. 2) #30*.

SPOTLIGHT: The last time you drew *Amazing Spider-Man* you helped welcome J. Michael Straczynski to the book. Did that feel like it was the start of a new, significant era in the Spider-Man mythos?

JRJr: Of course. It was obvious. A new vision, a fresh take.

SPOTLIGHT: And shortly after that, in the landmark *Amazing Spider-Man* #36, you and JMS dealt with the aftermath of September 11, 2001. That had to be difficult. What did that bring out of you?

JRJr: Oh, boy. It was gut-wrenching. Not the act of drawing, of course, but the subject matter. I was stuck in California and couldn't get back to my home in New York City. That was my personal story, but drawing that issue was masochism! I couldn't believe I was drawing the very thing that had destroyed the lives of so many people. I thought it was a bad idea at first. My father and I both thought it was too sensitive a subject, but then here we go! I had to get on it and it ended up being a beautiful sensitive piece of work.

SPOTLIGHT: Now I think everyone is really excited to have you back on *Amazing Spider-Man*. In the past several years you have worked on big event after big event. Now it seems like just having you drawing Spider-Man again makes this a big event.

JRJr: I try not to think it's a big event because it's me. I try not to see it that way. To me it's a big event because of how much I love to draw this comic. Unfortunately the six issues I do will be boom, boom, boom, over in two months! Then I'm off the stands again for a while.

SPOTLIGHT: How does that schedule affect your output?

JRJr: I didn't like it at first but I like it now because I can work on side projects and creator-owned stuff like *Kick-*%#*.

SPOTLIGHT: *Kick-*%#* (with writer Mark Millar) is really awesome by the way!

JRJr: Thanks a lot!

SPOTLIGHT: Dan Slott is writing the "New Ways To Die" arc. How has collaborating with him been? Has he been giving you plenty of room for storytelling (panel and page layouts/angles)?

JRJr: It's not so much that he's writing toward my style. He's writing what he wants to write and I draw it as I see fit. It's hard to describe, but I can say that when I work with writers, if I change anything it's never a subtraction. It would always be an addition in some way. Adding panels or rearranging things for pacing. I don't ever take away from the editorial content. The writers would be okay with allowing me to do more, I think, but I want their brilliance to come across. I just play with the choreography and the pacing. It's their story and I spread it on the bread with my butter knife.

SPOTLIGHT: You've been working on Spider-Man comics on and off for well over twenty years now. Are you able to compare your work now to your earlier days?

JRJr: I'm better now because of repetition. You can't help but do something regularly for twenty years and not improve.

SPOTLIGHT: Did you have less leeway back then when it came to storytelling?

JRJr: Sure. Not knowing as much you don't have as much freedom, because you don't know what you can do.

SPOTLIGHT: What are some of your most memorable stories you've done in *Amazing Spider-Man*?

JRJr: The Juggernaut fight I did with Roger Stern (*Amazing Spider-Man* #229-230). And memorable for the wrong reasons is *Amazing Spider-Man* (Vol. 2) #36, again the 9/11 issue. The whole run with JMS was great to be a part of, but that issue will always stay with me because of how painful it was.

SPOTLIGHT: What makes the Juggernaut story stand out?

JRJr: That story really taught me about power and mass. I remember Roger Stern giving me an example of the disparity in size of the two characters, Spidey and Juggernaut. These were his words: "Do you remember Daffy Duck trying to arrest the big cowboy outlaw in the cartoon? Daffy Duck is pulling and pulling on this character and he can't move him! It's like a fly on a bull. Just imagine Spider-Man in the same sort of image." I did a multi-image shot of Spider-Man attacking the Juggernaut.

AN ARTIST'S RESPECTS: Native New Yorker JRJR's toughest assignment was capturing the mood right after 9/11 in a comic book context. (Art from *ASM Vol. 2 #36*.)

"I JUST PLAY WITH THE CHOREOGRAPHY AND THE PACING. IT'S THEIR STORY AND I SPREAD IT ON THE BREAD WITH MY BUTTER KNIFE."

– ROMITA JR. ON WORKING WITH WRITERS.

Juggernaut does not get fazed. I remember suddenly having this great feeling, thinking, "Wow, the Juggernaut is really…heavy. He's really planted there."

From then on I would try to recapture that feeling when dealing with other large, powerful characters. My father told me one of the great things about Jack Kirby was that he always had the characters' weight in there. They were on the ground; they could leave a divot on the ground. When I was working on the two issues with the Juggernaut, I wanted to show that weight and that mass. It kind of perpetuated that in my work when dealing with Hulk, or larger characters in *Spider-Man*. Spidey is a tiny character compared to some of the people he fights. To make that power and weight clear was a real challenge, and now I'm told that it has become a forte of mine.

SPOTLIGHT: It certainly is. Your *Thor* run and your *Hulk* work especially come to mind. The way you draw the larger characters gives the stories an epic feel, and it sounds like that aspect of your work can be traced right back to Spider-Man's battle with Juggernaut.

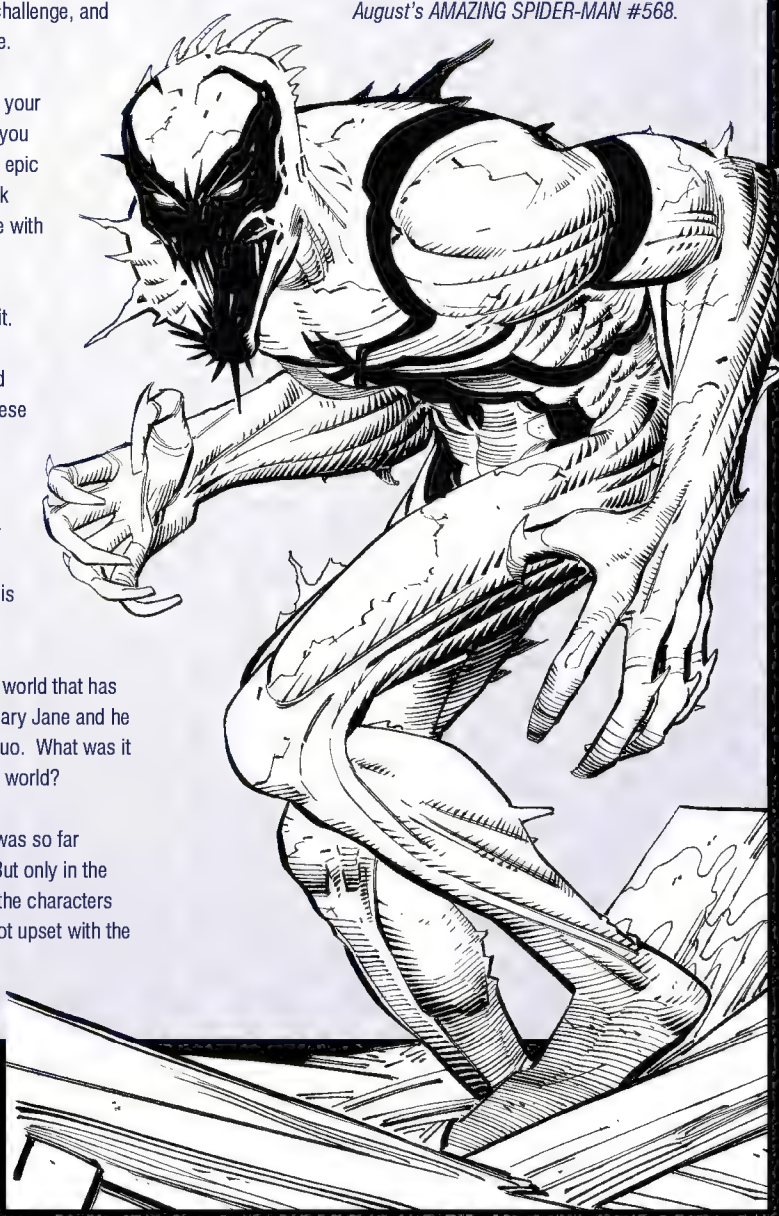
JRJr: And I credit Roger Stern with triggering it. My dad and Marvel always tried to pound that in artists' heads: "Look at what Kirby does and what Buscema and Romita do and see how these characters are on the ground and planted there. There's weight and that helps things look three-dimensional." The art doesn't ring true until two things happen: you develop your ability well enough to be able to pull it off, and the light bulb goes on over your head that this is how you do it.

SPOTLIGHT: You're returning to a Spider-Man world that has been turned on its head: he's not married to Mary Jane and he has a new supporting cast and a new status quo. What was it like having so much changed in Peter Parker's world?

JRJr: I was a little disappointed at first that it was so far removed from what I had worked on before. But only in the melodrama and soap opera aspects of where the characters were; it didn't affect the actual drawing. I'm not upset with the storyline or any people involved but there is a difference and I didn't think there would be a difference. It was almost like I'm dealing with a cousin instead of a brother until I got used to it.

But we have to make people buy the premise so they'll buy the comic. The trick is to build people's confidence in what we're doing, and the people on the book will pull it off. Remember, this is the title that came back from the Clone Saga mess! [*Laughter.*] If it can come back from the clone mess it can easily handle this. This is actually a quality idea considering what's happened in the past.

What more seal of approval do you need? Be on the lookout for "New Ways To Die" and John's six-issue run, beginning in August's AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #568.



ANTI-VENOM: The mystery of who this new villain is will be unraveled in future issues of *ASM*…but for now feast your eyes on these black and white preview inks of JRJR art from *ASM #569*!

MORE JRJR BLACK AND WHITE PREVIEW INKS!
John brings his kinetically charged style to the battle between Venom and Anti-Venom in *ASM #570*!

NEW WAYS TO DIE:

INSIDE THE SPIDER-OFFICE

Spotlight Chats With Spidey Editor Stephen Wacker On The Chaos That Is The 'No-Fun' Zone!

By Dugan Trodglen

Like a third base coach in baseball, an editor is usually only noticed when there is a problem or something goes wrong. Steve Wacker bucks this trend by being the high-profile editor of Spider-Man's Brand New Day. With its thrice-monthly schedule, Steve has to have a very hands-on approach keeping the wheels greased when it comes to both the writers and the artists. It's even more difficult than it sounds, and Steve is not only handling it well, he's adding a bit of his own witty style to the mix via editorial asides and a free-wheeling letter page bursting with Steve's personality. Now that Brand New Day is several months in, we thought we'd check in with Steve on how things are going with one of the boldest comic book concepts in years.

SPOTLIGHT: Several months in, have you more or less settled into a routine on juggling the thrice-monthly schedule?

STEVE: On some things we're set in a pretty solid routine. For instance, I know down to the last second when I can deliver a particular letter column, driving the bullpen insane. In most aspects though, each issue is its own adventure and we've certainly been down to the wire a few times. In fact, last week I thought we were going to ship our first late issue, but my colorists saved my butt…as colorists often do.

Here's what I've whittled the process down to:

Monday-Wednesday: Tom Brennan, my assistant editor, worries and frets and tells me there's no way we can do this. I do nothing.

Thursday: Brennan worries. I pretend to be working and "calling people."

Friday: Everything comes in. I look like a genius.

SPOTLIGHT: How many storylines are you dealing with at any given time?

STEVE: Upwards of seven or eight. You have to keep the art team and the writers working or you could really fall into a pit. A week without a script, or a day without a page of art is a worrisome one.

SPOTLIGHT: The writer rotation is obviously not going in the exact order in which it began. How is this managed?

STEVE: The guys each pitch their stories individually to each other (as well as me, Executive Editor Tom Brevoort, and Brennan) and through conversation they generally fall into a particular order just based on what's happening in them.

SPOTLIGHT: Is managing the visions of the various writers still fairly fluid, as it seemed to be when BND launched? Does

FIGHTING THE FREAK! Before the Spidey braintrust ushers in the old villains, Spidey had to tangle with the new: the frightful Freak battled our hero in *ASM #558*. (Art by Barry Kitson.)

"...if I have a chance to get issues of *Amazing Spider-Man* written by Mark Waid and Joe Kelly, I'd be a fool editor not to take it."

— Editor Steve Wacker on increasing the Spidey braintrust

the "braintrust" still interact at the same level as they did in the beginning?

STEVE: We haven't had the need for weekly conference calls in a while because we've been planned out for so long. However, once a month or so we'll still get together and touch base and see if anyone's had any bright ideas. In fact, we just had one where we invited Mark Waid and Joe Kelly along to talk through the next eight months issue by issue. The only disappointing thing about that was that Bob Gale had to miss it since he had gone to a car show celebrating — I kid you not — the history of the DeLorean. [*Need we mention again that ol' Bob is responsible for Back To The Future? No? Okay. –Ed.*]

SPOTLIGHT: A couple of storylines in, what have the individual writers brought to the table and how does that compare with your expectations on hiring them?

STEVE: For Brand New Day, I was really looking for a combination of appreciation for the classic "feel" for Spidey as well as writers who wouldn't feel locked into the way things have always been done, and I think they've all delivered on that front to different degrees.

If it were a scale, I'd probably have Bob's stories on the end of feeling most like a classic issue of *Amazing* and Zeb on the end of feeling most like a Quesada-era Marvel comic. There's a lot of room to maneuver within that and it gives you an absolute breadth of options to play with

SPOTLIGHT: With four writers already, why was it necessary to bring in Mark Waid and Joe Kelly?

STEVE: I don't know that it was "necessary," but if I have a chance to get issues of *Amazing Spider-Man* written by Mark Waid and Joe Kelly, I'd be a fool editor not to take it. Bob had promised six issues and Zeb had some other commitments that we had to make room for. Bob still managed to contribute to our jam issue and Zeb is working on an upcoming issue featuring the Punisher, so neither of them has been kicked out the door or anything. This book is just a huge commitment with so many scripts to read and comment on as well as write that I was always prepared for the eventuality that you'd have to bring in some new blood once in awhile. The fact that I could make the new writers two of my favorites is just icing on the cake.

SPOTLIGHT: What has been the biggest challenge to remaining on schedule? (Besides the notoriously late Dan Slott!)

STEVE: No other book at Marvel runs like this one does, so

BRAND NEW KRAVEN: The Hunter is now a femme fatale with Daredevil in her sights! (Inked black and white art by Phil Jimenez.)

UPCOMING SPIDEY TITLES

Web-spinning out of Editor Steve Wacker's Spider-Office comes three books starring Brand New Day Spidey!

Amazing Spider-Man: Extra! One Shot

By Joe Kelly, Marc Guggenheim, Zeb Wells, Chris Bachalo and others

Out now!

Amazing Spider-Man Family #1

By J.M DeMatteis, Tom DeFalco, Ron Frenz and Alex Cal

First issue out in August!

Secret Invasion – The Amazing Spider-Man #1 Featuring Jackpot!

By Brian Reed and Marco Santucci

First issue out in August!

we've had a bit of a learning curve getting the internal Marvel schedules to bend and make sense of what we're doing. We have John Romita Jr. doing six issues being published over eight weeks, so on a sheet it looks like he has two months work, when in actuality he has five or six. That kind of dull stuff has probably been the biggest hurdle.

SPOTLIGHT: You have several other BND-related projects coming out: the limited series *Secret Invasion – The Amazing Spider-Man*, an *Extra!* one-shot, and the quarterly *Amazing Spider-Man Family.* How can you also handle all of these extras?

STEVE: Tom Brennan is one of the best assistants in the biz and helps keep me aimed at things that need doing. He's a huge reason that this book has stayed on schedule.

SPOTLIGHT: What is *Amazing Spider-Man Family* and how does it differ from the previous quarterly *Spider-Man Family*?

STEVE: Moving that book into the main Spidey office will help us create stories that reflect the regular continuity of *Amazing*, which will in turn help us give some time to elements of Peter's world we just don't have room to cover in 66 pages of *Amazing* every month. It will also serve as a home for "Mr. And Mrs. Spider-Man" featuring stories of a married Peter and Mary Jane. Alongside that, the relaunch gives me a chance to introduce some new features I've been itching to try like "Aunt May: Agent of F.E.A.S.T." and "The Private Life Of Peter Parker," as well as bringing back "Untold Tales of Spider-Man" and renaming the reprints "Told Tales of Spider-Man"…and if I can convince Chris Giarusso, you'll see the debut of MAXI-MARVELS!

SPOTLIGHT: What makes the *Extra!* one-shot an "Extra"?

BRING ON THE BULLSEYE! This baddie can bring plenty of "New Ways To Die" to the party! (Cover art to *ASM #572* by JRJr.)

STEVE: We have three stories important to the ongoing stories in *Amazing*, but that didn't warrant complete issues themselves:

In the first story: Joe Kelly and Chris Bachalo bring you up-to-date with the violent beginnings of Hammerhead preparing for his return in *Amazing Spider-Man* #575 this October.

Story #2 by Marc Guggenheim and Marcos Martin has Spidey enlisting the services of Matt Murdock to help confront the lawsuit filed against Spidey back in February. The story takes place several weeks from now continuity-wise, so you'll see some hints at Marc's next big storyline, too. Primarily though, this story is a chance to get some more Marcos Martin artwork in front of fans. The fan reaction to his three-parter back in May has been bigger than we even imagined, so we're working hard to keep him busy in Spidey's world.

And story #3 is a glimpse into the relationship between Harry Osborn and Peter Parker by Zeb Wells and Patrick Olliffe. Going back to issue #546, and our first Brand New Day issue, I think Zeb's take on Harry just hits the right tone and, along with one of the best Spidey artists in Olliffe, this story has become a personal favorite of mine.

SPOTLIGHT: When we interviewed the writers upon the launch of BND, they mentioned that "fun" was to be treated like its own "f-word"; they were forbidden from using it when discussing the new direction of the book. What's the deal?!? This book *is* fun!

STEVE: It's nice of you to say, but I think "fun" only gets you so far. The best Spidey stories tear the heart out of Peter Parker and make you feel intensely for him and what he sacrifices; you sweat as he makes mistakes. At the same time, the book has always had a good amount of humor in it and I think that's an element we've worked towards bringing back into the book, but it's a spice, it's not the whole meal. People have this view of Spidey as a "fun" book that I've never understood. Going back to the beginning, this character is built on tragedy and drama and that's what we're aiming for, just like Stan did, just like Gerry Conway did, just like Len Wein did, just like Roger Stern did, just like Tom DeFalco did, just like J.M. DeMatteis did, just like JMS did (to name a few). Those guys all hit the mark and hopefully we can too.

SPOTLIGHT: Speaking of fun, the editorial asides and letters pages in each issue give the book a distinct personality. How did you know it was the right time and place for such irreverence?

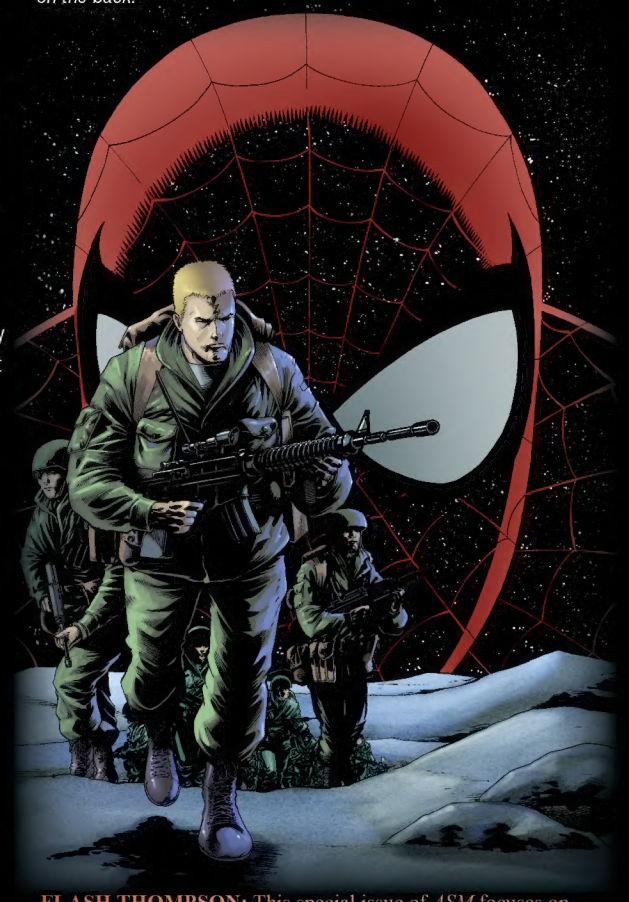
STEVE: A lot of it is inherited by Stan and a lot of it is just my own sense of humor and the humor of the writers. I think on a couple occasions I've pulled back an in-story box because I thought it hurt the mood, but it's really case-by-case.

The letter columns are the way they are because when I was reading comics I was always more interested in what clues the editor was dropping in his answers than in the content of the letters. So just running letters with no responses or context seems just flat out dull. You can get that on the internet. To me, each issue of *Amazing Spider-Man* feels like we're putting on a show and we've got to make sure it's worth $2.99 each time from front cover to back cover.

SPOTLIGHT: The book seems to have more breathing room now that the status quo and supporting cast have been sufficiently introduced. Was that something you knew going in would take a little while to settle into?

STEVE: 100%. And I don't think we're there yet. We knew the new status quo was going to take a while to accept and that all of us on Brand New Day were potentially going to pay for stories we didn't work on. It's completely fair and understandable. We knew the job when we took it. But one thing everyone at Marvel's been great about is patience. Giving us some time to clear the earth and devote pages to some of our new players. It's not always easy because there's a certain faction that wants to see Spidey fighting Green Goblin and Doctor Octopus every month, but it's not sustainable and you need to bring new blood in every once in a while to keep things fresh. The massive spotlight of One More Day allowed us to do that, and as more of our new cast integrates into the Marvel Universe proper, it will hopefully start to pay off.

So far so, good, Steve. For all the hard work you put in on Amazing Spider-Man every month you deserve a big rai…er, pat on the back!



FLASH THOMPSON: This special issue of *ASM* focuses on Flash Thompson. (Cover art to *ASM #574* by Barry Kitson.)

THE SPOTLIGHT REVIEW

OLD WAYS TO DIE: *Kraven's Last Hunt* and *Death of the Stacys*

By Alex Lear

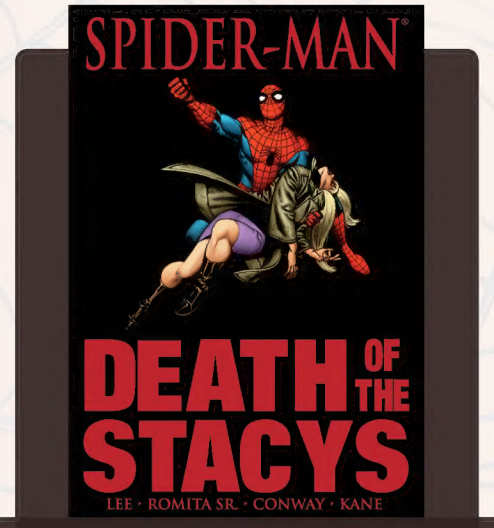
THE "KRAVEN'S LAST HUNT" AND "DEATH OF THE STACYS" story arcs have a few similarities. Both saw classic Spider-Man villains become that much more sinister. Both showed Spidey himself pushed to the brink of near insanity by the actions of those villains. And both are milestone tales that have been reprinted in the *Marvel Premiere Classic* series.

I was eight when I first read the "Kraven's Last Hunt" storyline, having pored over the shocking multi-title crossover from *Web of Spider-Man*, *Amazing Spider-Man* and *Spectacular Spider-Man* upon its release in the summer of 1987. This wasn't the clean-cut, only *slightly* violently eccentric Kraven the Hunter I knew from the *Marvel Tales* reprints of the '60s. No, this guy was completely deranged, and yet writer J.M. DeMatteis gave him a faded nobility that made you pity him as much as despise him. Never had I seen a super hero shot, seemingly killed, buried, and then claw his way out of his coffin after two weeks underground. And never had I seen a villain put a rifle in his own mouth and pull the trigger.

Clearly these weren't Archie or Mickey Mouse comics.

The same probably went for the readers of the "Death of Gwen Stacy" story in 1973's *ASM #121-122*. Here again was a well-known villain, the original Green Goblin, who years before managed to discover Spider-Man's secret identity of Peter Parker and evolve from another would-be crime boss to a serious complication in Peter's personal life. At the very end, though, writer Gerry Conway took the Goblin to new depths, having him capture Peter's girlfriend Gwen, carry her to the top of the George Washington Bridge and cause her death in issue #121. The Goblin died the following issue.

Spider-Man: Kraven's Last Hunt collects *Amazing Spider-Man #393-394, Web of Spider-Man #32-33,* and *Spectacular Spider-Man #131-132*
Writer: J.M. DeMatteis **Artist: Mike Zeck**



Spider-Man: Death of the Stacys collects *Amazing Spider-Man #88-92* and *#121-122*
Writers: Stan Lee & Gerry Conway
Artists: John Romita Sr. & Gil Kane

It wasn't the first time the Stacys had experienced death. In 1970 *ASM #88-92* saw a classic bout with Doctor Octopus and, ultimately, the death of Gwen's father, retired police captain George Stacy. Ock is playing for keeps when he hijacks a 747 en route from Chicago to New York with a Chinese general onboard, and he threatens to kill all passengers if he encounters any interference upon landing and doesn't get the $10 million he's demanding.

The deaths of the Stacys are similar to that of Peter's Uncle Ben: Spider-Man might accidentally have contributed to all three. As he could have stopped the escaping burglar who later killed Ben, the Web-Slinger used a chemical to cause Ock's arms to go awry in *ASM #90*, which led one arm to inadvertently smash a chimney, the bricks of which crushed Stacy. When the Goblin knocked Gwen off the bridge, Spidey snagged her leg with a web line to stop her plummet, and the quiet "snap!" from her neck raised the question of whether it was our hero himself who accidentally killed her – a classic guilt complex in the extreme.

Unlike the "Death of the Stacys" arcs, though, "Kraven's Last Hunt" ends on an optimistic note. Having escaped his grave and turning Vermin – a sewer-dwelling creature tormented by Kraven – into helpful hands, Peter returns to his newly married wife, Mary Jane. We saw a seed of their relationship at the end of #122, and with their reunion at the end of the Kraven arc comes the first sight of sunshine in the entire storyline. For once, there's some hope in the often tortured life of Spider-Man.

SPIDER-MAN: DEATH OF THE STACYS and SPIDER-MAN: KRAVEN'S LAST HUNT are two timeless tales in Marvel's new line of hardcover reprints, Marvel Premiere Edition Classics. And Kraven's Last Hunt is now back in print in softcover trade!

"It's a fantastic read, with excellent artwork and writing. Don't Miss This! Highly Recommended!" — *ComiXtreme.com*

"Slott paired with John Romita Jr. is a marriage made in Heaven. That's what takes this arc from being good to being very good."
— *BrokenFrontier.com*

You're a decent and noble guy, an out-and-out hero of the first order, and you've saved the city more times than anyone can count. But don't you get it by now, Spidey? For every life you save, there's a million new ways to die!

Especially with Norman Osborn on the scene. He's got a plan to take you down that's more clever than ever — and, this time, he's backed by the law! He and his team of Thunderbolts — including the baddest of the bad, Bullseye and Venom — are considered the good guys! And with all the crazy changes Eddie Brock has gone through, he's creepier than ever and tracking you down at the same time! Throw in the weird behavior of your buddy Harry Osborn — why is he so erratic these days? — and you've got some major-league problems!

Face it, Spidey: It may be your Brand New Day ... but it's probably going to be your last!

Collecting ***Amazing Spider-Man #568-573,*** written by Dan Slott (***Mighty Avengers***) and featuring the triumphant return of artist John Romita Jr. (***World War Hulk***).

MARVEL